









# Local income tax fair and equitable, union ratepayers argues

Christopher Warman, Government spokesman, said the National Union of Ratepayers' Associations, which is the replacement of the local income tax, has not been asked to comment on the Revenue's proposal that such a tax should not be administratively feasible. The union emphasizes the need for a local income tax, which would enable another million people to contribute to local spending and the rates by 40 per cent. The union says that although a local income tax would be based on a more costly staff that ignores the cost of rating revaluations, which would be needed more frequently in these inflationary times, it would be virtually impossible to do without. The union also points out that an equally fundamental principle, which is the basis of the Board's decision, is that a local income tax would not provide any financial discipline for future decisions, compared with the existing rating system, which would grow with the economy.

## Arsonist sent to live in Quaker centre

The Court of Appeal in London yesterday freed a man from a three-year jail sentence on condition that he goes to live in a Quaker community. Substituting a three-year probation term for the prison sentence, Lord Justice Roskill warned John Farr, "This is not a soft option. If you commit any further offences you may find yourself with a longer sentence." Mr Farr, aged 22, of St Philip's Avenue, Eastbourne, was convicted at Lewes Crown Court on February 3 of arson. The Quaker community is the therapeutic centre at Glebe House, Shady Camp, near Cambridge. The camp encourages toughness. Lord Justice Roskill, sitting with Mr Justice Shaw and Mr Justice Stocker, said that the court was taking an exceptional course.

## Bomb trial halted by judge's sore throat

From John Chatterjee, Lancaster. Mr Justice Bridge, continuing his summing-up on the fourth day of the Birmingham public house bombings trial, told the jury at Lancaster Crown Court yesterday that it was impossible to know that only six men were involved in the plot and the carrying out of the crime to its conclusion.

Six men are accused of 21 murders and conspiracy, two of conspiracy and possessing explosives, and a number of conspiracy only. The judge who was taken ill three weeks ago, causing a week's adjournment, was suffering yesterday from a partial loss of voice which he attributed to four hours of continuous talking in the first stage of his summing-up on Monday or to a throat infection.

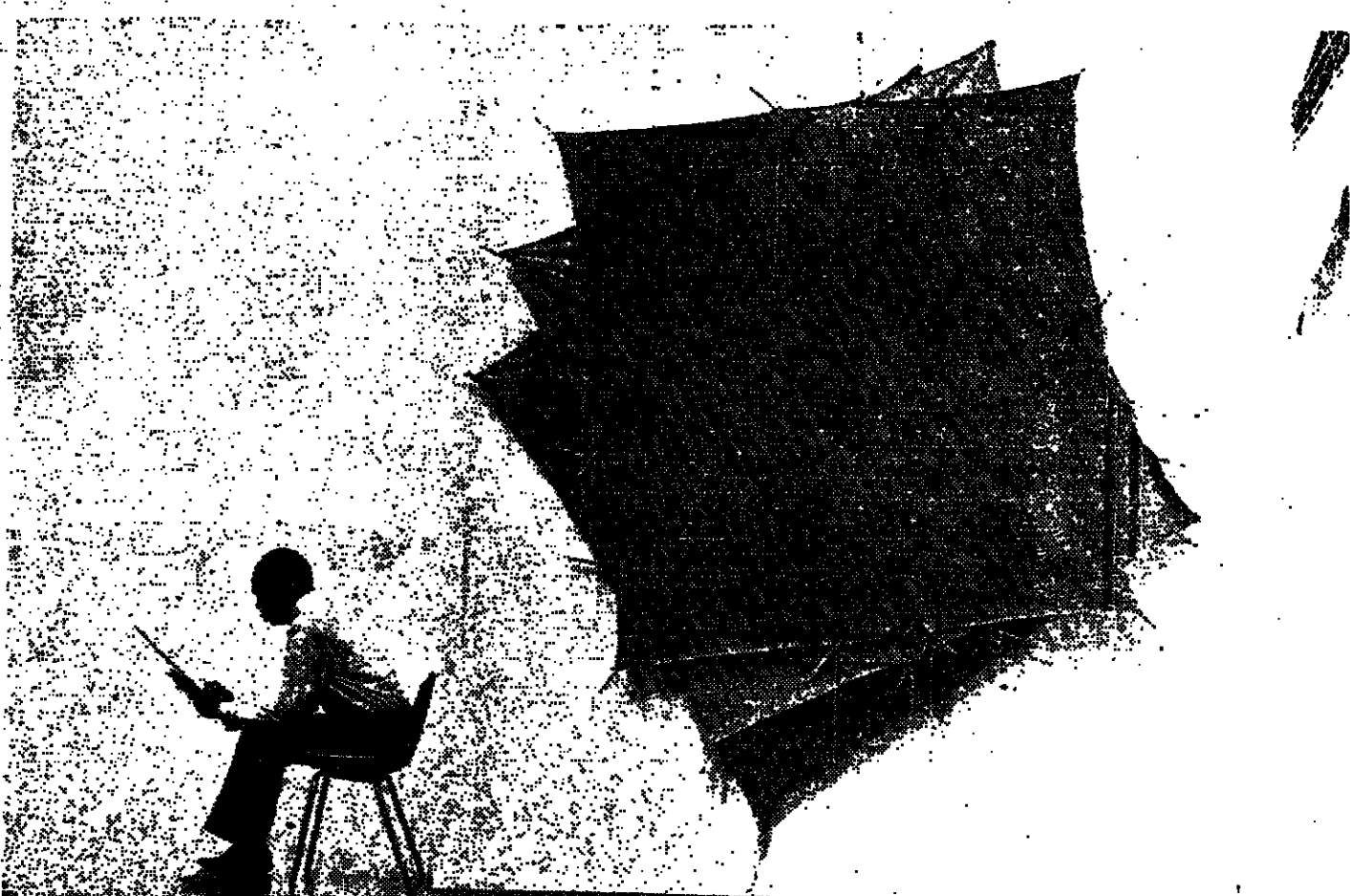
He adjourned the trial at lunchtime yesterday, and told the jury that he hoped he would recover his voice under treatment which was frequently prescribed to pop singers, by today.

Earlier he had examined a conflict in evidence by Dr Frank Skuse of the Home Office forensic laboratory at Leyland, Lancashire, for the prosecution, and by Dr Hugh Black, a former chief inspector of explosives at the Home Office, for the defence. The judge questioned the experience and qualifications of Dr Black in forensic science.

He said Dr Black had never worked in the field of forensic science and had never taken swabs from a human. Dr Black's evidence was to the effect that apart from nitroglycerine and ammonium nitrate, the two main ingredients of commercial explosives, other substances, notably nitrocellulose, which is used in paints and varnishes for public house furniture and bars, could produce the same results in tests.

Dr Black, the judge said, had suggested that a varnish dissolved in alcohol and absorbed into the skin could produce the same results. He went on to say, however, that Dr Black had produced no proof of this theory.

Mr Justice Bridge, who advised the jury on Monday that he might express his own opinions about evidence of facts but that that should not necessarily affect their verdict, said yesterday: "I have made my views pretty plain over this conflict over forensic evidence but as an issue of fact it will be your decision and not mine that will count."



"Threesquare 2, 1975", a three-dimensional creation in canvas by Richard Smith, the British artist, whose work is on exhibition at the Tate Gallery.

## BBC revives 'Tonight' for new programme

By Our Arts Reporter. A new late-night current affairs series with an old title, *Tonight*, was announced yesterday by BBC television. The title was last used 10 years ago with Cliff Michelmore running the early evening programme. "We think it's a good one," Mr Brian Wenham, head of current affairs, said "so we brought it back". The programme will run from Mondays to Fridays on BBC1 and replaces the three-weekly *Midweek*. Sue Lawley, formerly of *Nightvision*, which returns in the autumn with an all-male team of Michael Barratt, Frank Bough and Bob Wellings, will be the copresenter of *Tonight* with Dennis Tuohy. They will be joined by a newcomer from BBC Scotland, Donald MacCormick, and reporters from other current affairs programmes. The programme's brief will be to reflect topical events at home and abroad. "The amount of foreign material we have used has been declining far too sharply and there should be more," Mr Wenham said. *Newsday* returns to BBC2 with Robert Day and two extended editions each week to include a long profile interview and a studio debate, and *Panorama* is back on Mondays on BBC1. *The Money Programme* returns on Fridays.

## Hot weather kills salmon

Hot weather is killing salmon in the Tamar, on the Devon-Cornwall border. They are dying in the tidal reaches of the river, one of the West Country's richest salmon streams, as they gather for their journey upstream to spawn. Because of the dry spell the river is low and most fish have been unable to swim upstream. Strong tides have stirred up silt where the fish are waiting and that, with the lack of oxygen in the water has caused the salmon to suffocate. Bird deaths: Hundreds of birds on the Norfolk Broads have been killed by a toxin produced by *Clostridium botulinum*, a bacterium that feeds on decaying vegetation. The dry spell has caused a drop in the water

## Press Council dismisses criticism of 'Guardian'

The Press Council has rejected a complaint by the London Co-operative Society (LCS) political committee that *The Guardian* failed to publish letters responding to references to the society by Francis Boyd, a columnist. Mr Boyd returned to the subject in his column and referred to letters he had received from LCS opponents. He quoted some of Mr Lomas's criticisms and commented on them. Mr Lomas replied to three new references in Mr Boyd's second article. Mr Boyd wrote in a further column that he had been amazed by the avalanche of abuse upon him. He quoted and commented on Mr Lomas's second letter. Mr John Ryan, assistant to the editor, told the council that there were many letters to newspapers that although unsuitable for straightforward use provided invaluable follow-up material. If the Press Council ruled against *The Guardian* the ruling would be a serious blow to the freedom of newspapers. The Press Council's adjudication, issued yesterday, was: "Whether the editor published the letter as such was a matter for his discretion and he was entitled not to publish it in the correspondence columns. The letter was a lively attack on the columnist whose comments did not treat Mr Lomas's complaints and criticism unfairly. The complaint against *The Guardian* is rejected."

Mr Alfred Lomas, secretary of the complainant committee, told the editor that the comment was a gratuitous, cheap side-swing against the LCS. He would not waste time commenting on the irrelevant communist sneer, but Mr Boyd's query about a change of name, silly as it might seem, raised again the whole bogus argument of those who wanted to stay in the EEC that those opposed to membership were chauvinistic and Little Englanders.

## In brief

### Driver banned for 25 years

A man who admitted driving while disqualified was banned until the year 2000 by a London magistrate yesterday. Peter Brant, who also admitted having no insurance, was also jailed for three months and fined £100 at Marlborough Street Court.

Mr Neil McElligott, the magistrate, said: "He was taking no notice of the law."

Mr Brant, aged 23, a sales man, of Ploughlands, Bracknell, Berkshire, was said to have been banned for a year in May for driving with an excess of blood alcohol and wanted for driving while disqualified in June.

### Youth saved

Police and firemen with mechanical diggers rescued a youth aged 16 from driving in the incoming tide at Shorham beach, Sussex, yesterday.

Edward Budgen, of Carterton, Oxfordshire, was trapped for 70 minutes when he fell in a hole and sand and shingle buried him to the neck. He was taken to hospital.

### Fire attacks on farms

Thames Valley police set a road blocks yesterday after fires had been started at four farms near Reading, destroying barns and hay worth more than £100,000.

### Murder remand death

A man accused of murder was found dead in Brixton prison, London, yesterday. Peter Lazar, aged 51, was remanded at Camberwell on June 6 for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

### Motorway opened

A 215m motorway connecting the Tyne bridge with the New castle upon Tyne to Jedburgh road was opened yesterday.

### Line cleared

The main railway line from London to the North and Scotland, blocked for five days by a derailment at Dutton Viaduct, Cheshire, was reopened yesterday.

### Doctor for trial

Dr Jeffrey Sherliker, aged 46 of Bayswater Farm Road, Oxford, was committed for trial on bail by Oxford Magistrates yesterday accused of 10 offences involving drugs.

### GLC aid for church

A further grant of £450 has been made by the Greater London Council Historic Buildings Board towards the cost of restoring the medieval church of St Lawrence, Whitechurch, Little Stanmore, Harrow.

REPUBLICA DE VENEZUELA • C.V.G. ELECTRIFICACION DEL CARONI, C.A. • EDELCA

# RAUL LEONI DAM, VENEZUELA

## FINAL PHASE - GURI PROJECT

### NOTICE OF BIDS • PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS

#### 1. BIDDING AND FINANCING

1.1. Bidding. Construction firms interested in bidding on the construction of the final phase of the Guri Hydroelectric Development are hereby advised that C.V.G. ELECTRIFICACION DEL CARONI, C.A. (EDELCA) has decided to proceed with the selection of bidders. The work to be bid at this time consists primarily of the raising and extension of the existing dam, the construction of powerhouse No. 2, the excavation of the tailrace channel and the construction of earthfill and rockfill dams along the right and left banks of the reservoir. The remaining parts of the Work and the supply of electrical and mechanical features for the generating units will be bid separately.

1.2. Financing. The cost of the Work will be financed from EDELCA's own funds plus appropriations by the Government of Venezuela.

#### 2. LOCATION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT

2.1. Location. The work is located on the Caroni River some 75 kilometers to the south east of its confluence with the Orinoco in the Districts of Heres and Piar in the state of Bolivar.

2.2. Characteristics of the Work. The work to be carried out consists primarily of:

- a) Excavation for the Power house, tailrace channel, and downstream riverbed improvements 13,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- b) Dam Concrete 5,100,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- c) Spillway Concrete 650,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- d) Powerhouse Concrete 500,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- e) Reinforcing Steel 52,000 M.T.
- f) Steel in Penstocks 19,000 M.T.
- g) Installation of 4 Generating unit of 600 MW each and their accessory equipment.

#### 3. INFORMATION AND RECEIPT OF QUALIFICATION DATA

3.1. Information. Firms interested in participating in bidding should request the "Información sobre el Proyecto" that will be available in the office of the Manager, Guri Project, located on the 1st floor, General de Seguros Building, Ciudad Comercial Tasmán, Chuao, Caracas, Venezuela prior to 4 p.m. August 15, 1975. This information should be requested in writing by a properly authorized representative.

3.1.1. Any additional information that interested firms require shall be requested also in writing and by a properly authorized representative before 4 p.m. September 15, 1975.

3.1.2. All the additional information that EDELCA decides to furnish will be by addendum.

#### 3.2. Receipt of qualification information

3.2.1. Prequalification information shall be delivered to the office of EDELCA, previously indicated, no later than 4 p.m. October 15, 1975.

3.2.2. Prequalification information shall be presented in triplicate and shall be transmitted by a duly notarized document containing all explanations and data in the Spanish language and signed by authorized representatives.

#### 4. CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The construction schedule requires that the Work be commenced in late 1976, that by mid 1980 additional power generation be obtained by having raised the present reservoir level and installed the first generating unit in Powerhouse No. 2 and that the entire work be completed by mid-1982.

#### 5. CHARACTERISTICS AND SCOPE OF CONTRACT

5.1. Characteristics. In view of the length of the contract period and changes in economic indices, the Work will be carried out under a type of contract that will provide for price adjustment during the contract period.

5.2. Scope. EDELCA considers that the Work should be carried out under a single contract. However, proposals may be presented that would cover only the concrete structures and related works or the construction of only the earthfill and rockfill structures. EDELCA reserves the right to select the bidding and contracting procedures which, in its judgment, are considered most favorable to the interests of EDELCA.

#### 6. GENERAL CONDITIONS

6.1. The purpose of this notice is to obtain requests for prequalification from firms with experience in construction of large scale projects, preferably similar in nature to that to be bid, and which, by reasons of their organization, availability of experienced personnel, and administrative and financial capacity, can demonstrate their ability to execute the Work properly and within the contract periods contemplated.

6.2. These firms be selected to bid that, in the judgment of EDELCA, can demonstrate a favorable combination of the conditions indicated in the previous paragraph, comply with the applicable legal requirements in effect of Venezuelan law and satisfy the requirements of this Notice.

6.3. Bidders seeking prequalification shall present proof of their experience in the execution of important projects and of their technical, financial, organizational and administrative capabilities.

6.4. No firms will be able to participate simultaneously in more than one association of interested bidders.

6.5. Firms intending to associate shall present the documents by which they agree to formalize said association and comply with all requirements of Venezuelan law in cases they are qualified to bid. In associations of Venezuelan and non-Venezuelan firms EDELCA will consider, in addition to that contained in paragraphs 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3, significant participation by Venezuelan firms.

6.6. In addition to all requirements of Venezuelan law concerning the formation and constitution of associations of firms, it is of absolute necessity to present in writing the document by which the firms intending to associate, jointly declare the following:

a) Express commitment of subsidiary, solitary and unlimited responsibility of each and all of the associating firms, without prejudice to the individual responsibilities that could affect each firm as to the execution of the Work, the complete compliance with contractual provisions, their responsibility as an employer, their relation to third parties, and for all other pertinent legal and contractual obligations.

b) The basic structure and decision making powers of the Board of Directors or other agency or organization that constitutes the final authority of the association which will have full power to make decisions in its behalf and represent before EDELCA during the various stages of qualification, bidding and execution of the Work.

c) The way in which the association will operate administratively and technically.

6.7. Each member of an association of firms shall present separately the documents relative to its firm.

6.8. Any significant error or omission, in the judgment of EDELCA, in the documents presented will be sufficient cause for disqualification.

6.9. The elements contained in the present notice are strictly informative and do not imply any obligation on behalf of EDELCA.

6.10. During the period of study of the prequalification information, EDELCA will be able to request from the interested firms any additional information considered necessary. By notice published in newspapers in Caracas, EDELCA will make known the names of the interested firms that are selected to bid.

6.11. EDELCA reserves the right to select or reject any of the interested firms.

#### 7. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Firms interested in participating in the bidding shall present the following documents:

7.1. Venezuelan Firms:

7.1.1. Letter signed by the authorized representative of the firm, in which the firm indicates its intent to participate in the bidding.

7.1.2. Articles of Incorporation and By-laws of the firm including any modifications to said documents.

7.1.3. Financial statement and Statement of Profit and Loss for each of the last five (5) years.

7.1.4. Reference letters from banks, or other commercial or financial agencies, indicating lines of available credit.

7.1.5. List and qualifications of technical and administrative personnel.

7.1.6. Evidence of continuous participation in heavy construction activities, with a list and location of principal contracts completed during the last ten (10) years.

7.1.7. Certificates of receipt for Income Tax and Obligatory Social Security payments.

7.1.8. List of projects in which the firm has acquired participation obligations continuing through the next three (3) years.

7.1.9. Other documents that the firm considers to be of value.

7.2. Foreign Firms:

7.2.1. Letter signed by the authorized representative of the firm in which the firm indicates its intent to participate in the bidding.

7.2.2. Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, authenticated by Venezuelan authorities.

7.2.3. Notarized documents, valid in Venezuela, that indicate the person or persons that will sign for the firm.

7.2.4. Financial statement and Statement of Profit and Loss for each of the last five (5) years.

7.2.5. Reference letters from banks or other commercial financial agencies indicating lines of available credit.

7.2.6. List and qualifications of technical and administrative personnel in a joint venture.

7.2.7. Information, properly documented, concerning the successful execution in the last fifteen (15) years, within the stipulated contract periods, of one or more projects comparable in importance, and in which the firm has been the Principal Contractor or a member, with significant participation in a joint venture. In case of an association of firms at least one member firm shall satisfy this requirement.

7.2.8. List, location and cost of projects constructed during the last ten (10) years in his own country and in foreign countries in which the firm has been the Principal Contractor, or member with significant participation in a joint venture.

7.2.9. List of projects in which the firm has acquired participation obligations continuing through the next three (3) years.

7.2.10. Certificates of receipt for Income Tax Obligatory Social Security payments in case the firm has operated previously in Venezuela.

7.2.11. Other documents that the firm considers to be of value.

#### 8. PRELIMINARY WORKS BY EDELCA

8.1. EDELCA will furnish to the contractor, ready for immediate use the following: primary access works, camp facilities for early period use; plants for the production of aggregates, concrete batching and mixing; installations and equipment for transporting and placing concrete; and temporary distribution systems for construction water, compressed air and electricity. Details at the previous mentioned items will be furnished in "Información sobre el Proyecto", previously referenced, paragraph 3.1 of this notice.

8.2. EDELCA has initiated the excavation of the foundations of monoliths in the extension to the existing concrete dam.

Caracas, 18 de julio de 1975

EL PRESIDENTE



TIM

ON SALE



## WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

## South Africa gives a sigh of relief that arrangements for Rhodesian talks are fixed at last

From Nicholas Ashford

South Africa has greeted the news that Rhodesian Government and African National Council representatives are to begin formal talks later this month with an almost audible sigh of relief.

Although hopes had been raised by the meeting last week between Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, and Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian leader, many South Africans feared that this could prove to be yet another false start. In particular, it was feared that Mr Smith, who appears to be almost as mistrusted in South Africa as he is by the British Government, might yet again manage to avoid direct talks with the nationalists or that the ANC might not succeed in overcoming its own internal differences.

It is now apparent that much more was achieved at the Pretoria talks than the terse statement issued afterwards suggested. It seems that Mr Vorster, who has withdrawn the last of the South African police from Rhodesia, succeeded in impressing on Mr Smith the need to agree on a neutral venue for the talks and a date when they should commence.

Equally it is recognized that the African countries supporting détente, particularly Zambia, played an important part in ending the deadlock. It was largely due to Zambian persuasion that the rival groups within the ANC have agreed to shelve their differences, at least for the time being, and start talking.

However the Rhodesian-ANC

meeting, which will take place in some railway coaches provided by the South African Government stationed in the middle of the Victoria Falls bridge, will only be the beginning of what could turn out to be a long and arduous negotiations and which are by no means sure to succeed. Mr Smith's taste for spectacular settings is no guarantee of success, as the talks in HMS Tiger and HMS Fearless have shown in the past.

What is unclear at the moment is exactly what concessions if any Mr Smith is prepared to make. There has been no indication so far that he is ready to alter his "no black majority rule in my lifetime" stance. Equally there are serious doubts whether the uneasy unity of the ANC will survive the tough negotiations which are about to commence.

One thing about which there seems to be little doubt is that this is Mr Smith's last chance to reach a peaceful settlement with the nationalists. If the talks fail, then a full-scale guerrilla war seems inevitable.

In such an eventuality Mr Vorster might find himself less popular in South Africa. So far public opinion has been almost wholly behind his détente policy, despite Rhodesian attempts to whip up right-wing sentiment against a settlement.

Our Salisbury Correspondent writes: Reaction from political circles to the news of the conference has predictably been mixed. The middle-of-the-road Rhodesia Party welcomed the announcement while

the right-wing Southern African Solidarity Congress of Rhodesia (Sascon) described the decision as grotesque.

Sascon, which has a small but growing and vociferous support in South Africa and Rhodesia, said the Victoria Falls were the scene two years ago of the wanton murder of Zambian troops of two Canadian girls. The murders were evidence of the total unreliability of black Rhodesians such as President Kaunda, Mr Samora Machel and Dr Nyerere, now reported to have been invited to the conference.

The feeling among the general public that any positive steps toward achieving a settlement with the ANC and ultimately with the British Government is welcome but there is little optimism.

Our Diplomatic Staff writes: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office welcomed the announcement of the conference yesterday. A short statement continued: "The British Government have been trying to promote such discussions and have been in close touch with the authorities concerned. The arrangements which are now reported to have been agreed were among the options discussed when Mr Vorster visited Salisbury and when Bishop Muzorewa was in London last week."

Although Britain is bound to be involved at some stage in the process, it has not yet been decided how and when. The British Government has been kept informed of progress during the negotiations.

Leading article, page 13



Rioters sack the headquarters of the Communist-aligned Portuguese Democratic Movement in Braga, northern Portugal.

## Portuguese dilemma over Timor

Continued from page 1

Independence by a local political party in the island colony of Timor.

The Timor Democratic Union is holding the island's police chief hostage and is reported to control the airport and communications centre. The Portuguese authorities in Timor have rejected an ultimatum for the immediate handover of power and the arrest of all the members of the rival Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor.

Colonel Lemos Pires, the military governor, has ordered his men not to intervene. The

dependants of the small Portuguese military contingent are on their way to Darwin, Australia, in an evacuation ship.

Copenhagen, Aug. 12.—Dr Mario Soares, leader of the Portuguese Socialists, has accused the Communists of wanting to create a dictatorship, according to an interview published today in the Danish newspaper *Politiken*.

"What is happening in Portugal recalls what happened in Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia," he said in the interview given in Lisbon yesterday.

The only difference is that the Soviet Army is not here. The Communists want a dictatorship or people's republic of the eastern type. They did not want to take power through democratic means, but by infiltrating the military and the state apparatus and by controlling the mass media and the non-elected labour leaders.

He again called for a national coalition government. "We cannot accept Gonçalves as head of government," he said.—*Reuters*.

Vigo, Aug. 12.—The Spanish police grounded an aircraft carrying anti-communist leaflets at Vigo airport after learning that its Portuguese pilot planned to fly it across the Portuguese border, the newspaper *A Tribuna* said today.—*UPI*.

The Spanish Government has announced that it is following a policy of strict non-intervention in Portuguese affairs.—*UPI*.

Luanda, Aug. 12.—The Portuguese national airline, TAP, today began the airlift of white refugees from the southern town of Nova Lisboa and said it planned to evacuate about 700 refugees a day.

The Portuguese authorities said they were planning to evacuate between 250,000 and 300,000 whites to Portugal by

October 31. An estimated 100,000 of the colony's half-million whites have already left.—*UPI*.

Oshikango, Namibia, Aug. 12.—Guerrillas of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), armed with automatic weapons, have been manning roadblocks and stopping white refugees on their way to the Namibian border with southern Angola, according to South African press reports here today.

A Staff Reporter writes: Six South African soldiers have been captured by guerrillas during fighting in Namibia and 200 killed, Mr Moses Garoch, administrative secretary of the South-West Africa People's Organization, claimed in London.

The South African Embassy described the allegations as "poppycock".

## Waldheim faith in Middle East talks

From Our Correspondent

New York, Aug. 12.—Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, answered some of the criticisms recently levelled at the organization, particularly the United States.

In the United Nations' 25th annual report he said organization should not be discouraged by "serious criticism" from the United States. The fact that people view its proceedings "a certain feeling of uneasiness" is primarily due to the realities of an interdependent world which are still not understood. The UN should, accordingly, strive harder to make its function more effective and to overcome its inherent limitations. Despite all the uncertainties of the past 20 years, the United Nations has shown remarkable capacity in its new tasks, he says. "For cracking under the strain, grown and developed."

Dr Waldheim is optimistic about recent developments in the Middle East. While peace keeping forces have been an essential role, he said, the UN has a serious mission for international peace and security, and the failure of any acceptable formula for the future of Namibia (South Africa) is of critical importance. South Africa's refusal to accept the UN's proposals, he adds, are "unacceptable" to the UN.

In more general terms Waldheim expresses his faith in the world arms talks. There are growing and positive arms establishments some of the most sensitive of the world, which could "potential detonators" nuclear conflict.

## General Gowon in London for a holiday

General Gowon, the deposed Nigerian leader, arrived in London late last night for a holiday in Britain, just two weeks after a bloodless coup ousted him from power.

He arrived at Gatwick airport on board a British Caledonian flight from Accra, Ghana. His journey started in Togo and he boarded the London bound flight in Accra under an assumed name.

The general who is 40, was met by the Nigerian High Commissioner in London and an official of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He was taken to a VIP lounge where he faced a barrage of questions from reporters.

Dressed in a dark brown suit and carrying the familiar cane, General Gowon was his usual jovial and evasive self, he said: "I am here for a short holiday to see my family. I do not know how long I will be here."

## Communists to boycott EEC mission

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, Aug. 12.—The French Communists have become the first important group in the EEC to boycott the mission of Mr Tindemans, the Belgian Prime Minister, to sound opinion on the future shape of the Community.

M. Marchais, the secretary-general of the party, said that EEC integration would lead to loss of French sovereignty.

## Mr Vorster leaving for Paraguay visit

From Our Own Correspondent

Johannesburg, Aug. 12.—Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, tomorrow sets out on a six-day visit to Paraguay and Uruguay. It will be the first time a South African Prime Minister has set foot in Latin America.

The visit is being officially hailed as a milestone in South Africa's long-term diplomatic offensive in Latin America. But the fact that most of Mr Vorster's time will be spent in Paraguay, one of the poorest and most ruthlessly repressed countries on the South American continent, has provoked critical comment both in South Africa and abroad.

The visit is part of a diplomatic offensive which began in the late 1960s and which is aimed at improving South Africa's diplomatic and trade ties with the continent. South Africa also wants to win Latin American support, or at least

neutrality, in the United Nations.

Dr Muller, the Foreign Minister, who will accompany Mr Vorster, has already been to a number of South American countries. At the end of last year Dr Koornhof, the Minister of Mines, visited some central American countries and Brazil.

So far South Africa has established diplomatic links of one kind or another with Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

The visit to Paraguay is in return for one which President Stroessner made to South Africa last year. On that occasion a general Stroessner was accused by several South African newspapers of being a ruthless despot with a reputation for harshness and repression.

## In brief

## Blaze advancing on villages

Hanover, Aug. 12.—Police today evacuated all 94 inhabitants of a village lying in the path of a 30ft high wall of flame racing across Luneburg heath.

State government officials are standing by to evacuate two more villages threatened by the blaze which started five days ago.

## Presidential 'buzzing'

Stockholm, Aug. 12.—Swedish fighter aircraft intercepted the aeroplane carrying President Ford from Helsinki to Bucharest early this month because it was heading for a restricted naval zone and the military authorities were not told of an agreed change in the aircraft's flight path.

## 'Sleeping Europe' fear

Peking, Aug. 12.—China is worried that Europe will "fall asleep" after the Helsinki European summit agreement which Peking regarded as just a scrap of paper, Mr Cornelius Berkhout, vice-president of the European Parliament, said here today.

## U-S-Cuba breach stays

Vail, Colorado, Aug. 12.—President Ford today welcomed Cuba's decision to return nearly \$2m paid to the hijackers of a United States airliner, but did not announce any reciprocal steps to help mend the breach between America and Cuba.

## 166 fatal flights

Berlin, Aug. 12.—A total of 166 people, most of them East Germans, have been killed trying to escape to the West from East Germany since the Berlin wall went up 14 years ago tomorrow.

## Six die in rail crash

Vilagarcia de Arosa, Spain, Aug. 12.—Six people were killed and 30 injured when a train was derailed today between Santiago de Compostela and Vigo.

## To Mars tomorrow

Washington, Aug. 12.—The launching of the Viking spacecraft towards Mars will now take place on Thursday. It was postponed at the last moment yesterday when a fault was discovered in a valve.

## Heatwave kills 20

Copenhagen, Aug. 12.—At least 20 people have died from the exceptional heat in Denmark, during the past fortnight.

## Paris talks to heal left's split over Portugal

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Aug. 12.—The French Socialist Party agreed half-heartedly today to a Communist appeal for a meeting to discuss the situation in Portugal and its implications for the left in France.

M. François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, is not to break his holiday to attend. Differences over the Portuguese issue today caused M. Jean Daniel, editor of *Le Nouvel Observateur*, the Socialist weekly, to file a suit against *L'Humanité*, the Communist Party daily, for libel.

The meeting between Socialists and Communists was urged by M. Georges Marchais, secretary-general of the Communist Party, to protest against the present wave of anti-communist

acts in northern Portugal. Unlike the Italian Communists, the French Communists have backed the Portuguese party substantially; the French Socialists regard the Portuguese Communists as the chief architects of all the Socialist difficulties in recent months.

M. Daniel's decision to go to court against *L'Humanité* followed heated exchanges in the two publications. The Communist daily today accused M. Daniel, who interviewed Major Melo Antunes, the former Foreign Minister in Lisbon, last week, of preparing "an odious justification in advance of an eventual massacre of Communists".

M. Daniel said that, even in the Algerian war, he had not been the subject of such calumny.

## Basque is shot dead near Gen Franco's birthplace

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Aug. 12.—The police shot dead a suspected Basque separatist today after capturing three others near General Franco's birthplace, El Ferrol, del Caudillo, in north-west Spain.

Señor José Ramón Rebolera Noya, an alleged member of the Basque separatist movement ETA, was shot dead in a pre-dawn gun battle with the police. Only hours earlier, the police in Lugo, nearby, arrested three Basque suspects. The semi-official news agency Cifra said that the three were armed with a sub-machine gun, three pistols and had plenty of ammunition.

## Caballé retirement report

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug. 12.—Montserrat Caballé, the Spanish soprano, is to retire, the *El País* daily *Arriba* reported here today.

It quotes her as saying after a concert at Puerto Banus, a luxury vacation village on the Costa del Sol, that she would retire after she had completed concert contracts in Belgium.

"For all of us the time to retire arrives and I think mine is now," she is quoted as saying. "I need long holidays to

see my family. This life is now too Bohemian for me.

Our Arts Reporter writes: The report that Montserrat Caballé is to retire was received with surprise last night by her London agent. A spokesman for S. A. Gorkinsky, the agent, was sceptical in fact that she had any immediate plans for her retirement.

Caballé, aged 42, was contracted up to the end of January, 1977, after which there were "pendulings in".

## German speed limit cuts accidents

From Dan van der Var

Bonn, Aug. 12.—West Germany's provisional speed limit on all roads except motorways of 100 kph (62 mph) has reduced accidents so much that it should be made permanent, according to a report published today.

The report, produced by the Federal Highway Office in Cologne, marks the end of a three-year experiment with the speed limit, and was handed to Herr Gscheidele, the Transport Minister, in Bonn today.

The document includes evidence that the limit has had a marked effect on certain types of accidents. Collisions while overtaking fell by 22 per cent in the first year and by 33 per cent in the second, and crashes caused by taking curves too fast fell by 18 and 29 per cent respectively.

The experts who prepared the report would have preferred a general speed limit of 80 kph (50 mph), but reluctantly recognised that this would be neither politically acceptable nor administratively and financially practicable.

The situation on the crowded autobahn network is far less satisfactory. These are the only roads in Europe on which no general speed limit is in force. There is a "recommended" top speed of 130 kph (81 mph), but this has no force in law.

The network, the busiest road system in the world, bears heavy traffic from countries bordering on West Germany, as well as domestic traffic. Half of all road deaths (now totalling about 14,500 a year) occur on the autobahns.

## Drafting of peace pact text in Washington

Washington, Aug. 12.—Israeli and American negotiators today began drafting the text of a proposed new interim peace agreement between Israel and Egypt.

The agreement is expected to be completed later this month, during a visit by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, to Egypt, Israel and Syria.

The agreement will specify the location and width of the buffer zone to be patrolled by Israeli and Egyptian forces in the desert. Most of the Sinai peninsula is expected to remain in Israeli hands.

Cairo, Aug. 12.—Egypt has given its final terms for an interim peace accord with Israel and expects the agreement to be signed this month, well-informed sources said today.

## A founder of Israel dies

Jerusalem, Aug. 12.—Mr Pinhas Sapiro, one of Israel's founders and a powerful political figure, died today from a heart attack during a tour of the Negev Desert. He was 65.

Mr Sapiro's last political office was Finance Minister. He left that post 14 months ago to become chairman of the Jewish Agency, which organizes emigration to Israel and channels contributions from abroad.—*AP*.

## Israel aid mission faces hard task in US

From Eric Marsden

Jerusalem, Aug. 12.—The Israel team of economic and military experts which is to begin talks with US officials in Washington tomorrow faces a tough task, made more so by the long delay caused by the American decision to reassess Middle East policy after Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, failed to secure an interim agreement in March.

At that time Israel had submitted a request for \$2,590m (about £1,295m) in military and economic loans and grants, but its leaders were told privately it was not likely to get more than \$2,000m. During the political battles, however, prices of latest weapons and gadgets have increased, and so have Israel's needs.

When they met in the Virgin Islands last month Dr Kissinger told Mr Simha Dinitz, the Israeli Ambassador in Washington, that he was thinking in terms of \$1,700m, but added that because of price increases the original request should not be cut.

It was estimated that the \$1,700m would be made up of \$1,200m in military aid, \$400m in economic aid plus \$100m for resettlement of Soviet Jews, surplus food sales and housing mortgage guarantees.

Mr Joshua Rabinowitz, Israel's Finance Minister, said at the weekend that, if there is an interim agreement, Israel would need to increase its aid request. The additional expenditure it will include a

new defence line in Sinai, some \$150m. Some estimates put almost double.

Israel is also expected to for \$350m in compensation for the loss of Israeli POWs, whose output grew about 60 per cent of its needs, but this is likely to be outside the scope of military aid deal.

Because of the likelihood that the requests will not be met in full, it is likely there will be a reduction in the numbers of F15 fighters asked for, and the losses will be made up by increased production of Israel's home-made Kfir aircraft.

It will take several months to build a new defence line in Sinai, and this is seen as another reason for a breakthrough in the peace talks.

Dr Kissinger's plans remain uncertain. The management of the King David Hotel, Jerusalem has booked a room for his party from Monday. The fact that he does not share his optimism that there is a 90 per cent chance of success and confidence in the confidence in

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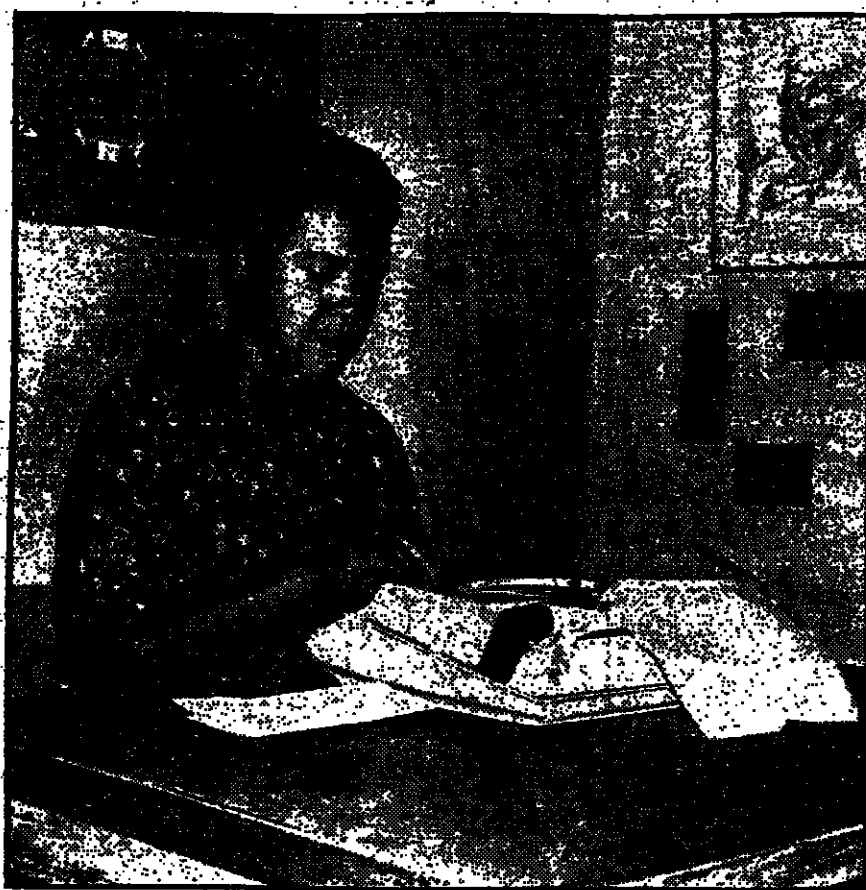
Waldheim  
faith in  
Middle East  
talks

Waldheim, a writer and journalist, is in Botswana. He contributes this week's guest column to our International Women's Year series.

The old days a woman was regarded as sacred only if she knew her place, that was in her yard with her mother-in-law and children. A number of these traditions, however, completely obliterated her as a thinking, feeling being and she was treated in all sorts of ways. So heavy is the toll of the centuries on the women of Botswana, that even with today's political independence for the country, one finds that the few literate women of the country are in uncertain terms of their lives. In uncertain terms of their lives, they are to assert themselves as individuals, to break through the long thread of continuity between the past and the present and one often goes back to the past to explain the malady of the present. One of the earliest and surprisingly accurate descriptions of Botswana society was recorded in 1895 by a German traveller, "Dr H. C. Lichtenstein. Many an old of the tribe will confirm Dr Lichtenstein's observations. About the role of women in the society, he wrote:

"The husband secures a livelihood by hunting, tending the cattle and the crops. When at home he prepares hides and makes skin clothes and cloth for himself and his family. About the children he hardly ever works, but he plays a very important part in the life of the tribe. It must not be overlooked that this role of women is not a consequence of tyranny by men, but due to the fact that women are the main cause of the tribe's survival. A woman, although it is not her duty, has to go to war, so naturally all her duties and occupations are by women. Only such work as can be dropped and can be interrupted for some length of time, such as sewing of clothes, is done by men. Other work which has to be done continuously such as building, tilling of soil, the making of pots, baskets, and other household utensils is done by women. Two-thirds of the work of men and even without wars they would have to belong to working class."

beating  
al

Despite broken  
bondage, Botswana women  
are still unloved

own family at the time of marriage, had overtaken of complete bondage to a husband and his family and undertones of a sales bargain. But in spite of all this, women have experienced considerable emancipation in Botswana. Their emancipation has never been an applied or intellectual movement; it centres around a number of historical factors, not the least being the complex and dominant role Christianity played in the political history of the country. All the tribes in Botswana have a shared history so that it is possible to discuss changes that took place, in broad terms. Unlike South Africa, Botswana had a benign form of colonial rule and invasion, under the old British Bechuanaland Protectorate established in 1885. Colonial rule was benign for an odd reason—the country was grim and unproductive, subject to recurrent cycles of drought. The British had no interest in it, except as a safe passage-way to the interior. British interest was focused on Mashonaland (now Rhodesia), about which they erroneously believed, held huge deposits of gold. Due to this, Botswana remained independent in a way; its customs and traditions were left intact and people's traditional rulers had a large say in governing their people. Thus, the real Southern African dialogue took place in Botswana. Christianity was a dialogue here, as was black people's ownership of the land and the retention of the ancient African land tenure system, as was trade.

It was about 1890 that the iron hand-plough was introduced into the country and this implement played a major role in lightening women's burden as an all-round food producer. Formerly, women scratched at the earth with a hoe. When the iron plough was introduced it created a small social problem that could only be solved by the men. It was forbidden in custom for women to handle the oxen and pull the plough. Agriculture then became a joint task shared by a man and his family. The peaceful establishment of trade brought a new form of clothing into the country, "European clothes", which was universally adopted. Christianity then presented itself as a doctrine above all traditions and mores; a moral choice freely available to both men and women and it is in this sphere that all major social reforms took place. Attention has to be shifted briefly at this point to an area of the country where Christianity and all it implied, became the major dialogue. It was in the Bamangwato area of the country, over the years 1865-1875 where a young chief, later known as Khama, The Great, suffered religious persecution from his father, Chief Sekgoma I, for making a complete and absolute conversion to Christianity. This brought Khama into conflict with traditional African custom, which was upheld by his father. The act of religious persecution for a belief eventually made Khama the victor in the struggle and the leading social reformer of the country. It could also be said of Khama

that he was a compassionate man by inclination because some of his reforms, which must have been extremely difficult to initiate, appear to have been motivated entirely by compassion and this is no more evident than in his abolition of *bogadi* or the bride price. It is significant that of the five major tribes of the country, only the Bamangwato and Basarwa completely abolished *bogadi*. All the other tribes still adhere to the custom. People vehemently deny that *bogadi* is the "purchase of women" and yet central to its functioning is human greed and the acquisition of wealth through cattle. Under *bogadi* marriages are so arranged as to retain cattle wealth within kinship groups, so that young girls were usually married to close relatives, a cousin, a father's brother's son. Many poignant dramas were played out against this background. Marriage was superficially sacred. *Bogadi* made a woman a client slave and chattel in the home of her in-laws; if she was ill-treated by her mother-in-law or husband, she could not complain. Her parents were always anxious that she do nothing to destroy the marriage in case they lose the *bogadi* cattle offered at the time of marriage. *Bogadi* also bonded over to a woman's husband's family all the children she could bear in her lifetime. As frequently happened, her first husband died and she should acquire children from another man, those children too were claimed by her deceased husband's family. *Bogadi* was eventually abolished in Bamangwato country on these compassionate grounds, that each man ought to be the father of his own children. When Khama abolished *bogadi*, he also, for the first time, allowed women to lodge complaints against their husbands on their own and not through a male sponsor, as was required by custom.

Change and progress has always been of a gentle and subtle nature—the widespread adoption of Christianity gradually eliminated polygamous marriages. At independence in 1966, women were given the right to vote alongside men. They did not have to fight for it. But strangely, this very subtlety makes it difficult to account for the present social crisis. The country is experiencing an almost complete breakdown of family life and a high rate of illegitimate births among the children. No one can account for it. It just happened somewhere along the line. A woman's place is no longer in her yard with her mother-in-law but she finds herself as unloved outside the restrictions of custom, as she was within it. When I first arrived in Botswana in 1964, women confided to me as follows: "Botswana men are not nice. When you take up with a man he sleeps with you for two weeks, then he passes you on to his friend, who passes you on to his friend. That is how we live."

Possibly two thirds of the nation are still women and about children produced under such circumstances, the men hardly care. "W. H. C. Lichtenstein: Foundation Of The Cape & About The Bechuanas (A. A. Balkema, Cape Town, 1973). © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1975.

Telling a  
child about  
death

Of all the topics picked out for comment by reviewers of my *Book of Child Care*, one has received particular attention: talking to children about death and the need sometimes to tell the truth to a dying child. Talking to children about death is more difficult than talking to them about sex, although even that can be a painful task. Children are very matter of fact about death but adults, from fear and from the usual error of religious beliefs, however, find it difficult to answer their questions. This means that they are liable to ignore their child's questions, thereby conveying to him their own sense of fear.

This question, like so many that come from children, is not as difficult as parents sometimes imagine. The child requires the truth and for this to be put in such a way that he can understand what he is being told. The usual error with so many of the answers given to children is too much detail. Being unintelligible to the child, it is boring. He therefore rejects the answer and the adult feels hurt and may appear to be angry. Another reaction of adults, if they cannot answer a child's questions, is to attempt to give him some facile answer or else to tell him not to ask stupid questions. Loss of face is painful at all ages but an inability to express ignorance does not cause loss of face and can be accepted by a child. In this context, it has taken the medical and nursing professions a long time to be aware that patients and parents can accept that doctors and nurses do not know the answers to all their questions.

Adults are sometimes upset by a child's apparent indifference and even callousness in the presence of death. But children's understanding of death may be very different from that of adults. On the one hand a child may not yet be aware that death is irreversible. On the other hand he may be absolutely clear that death is inevitable and that the world would soon become an impossible place to live in if ever he was to die.

A child faces the concept of death, in the sense of the possibility of losing his mother, at a very early age. Once he becomes aware that he has a separate identity from his mother he becomes frightened of losing her. But at this age he is not thinking of himself as a child, he is thinking of himself as a person. Many mothers have been unnecessarily hurt by a toddler's remark "I wish you were dead", since they have taken this literally. The toddler was

only wanting his mother to go away for a moment, being ready to reappear the instant he was required. Since children are matter-of-fact people it is essential that the language used in talking to them is factual. Describing a dead person as having gone to sleep is a muddling misrepresentation of the facts. "Going to heaven" is difficult enough for adults to understand, so small wonder that it confuses children. What then can be said to explain death to a child? This is not difficult since he has no problem in understanding the disintegration of the body after death, especially if he has kept pets.

Further explanations as to what happens after death are always dependent on religious beliefs. However, whatever these beliefs, the child can be told that the influence of the dead person will always live on and in that sense death is not the end of the person.

I believe that children, even when very young, should be allowed to go to the funerals of relatives and of friends much more often than at present. So often the decision not to take the child is made without any thought of the consequences on the child. A funeral is an essential part of the mourning ceremony and a child needs to mourn his loss just as much as an adult. A funeral also helps the child to accept the reality of death.

These functions of the funeral are not universally understood since there are still those who, from the best of intentions, try to keep parents away from the funeral of their still-born baby. I am becoming increasingly aware that many parents of still-born babies have been unable to work through their grief, having had no part in the funeral and often not even knowing where their baby is buried.

Personal guilt is also part of the mourning process and this may be felt even more intensely by children. Since children do feel things intensely there are times when they may have wished the now dead relative or friend to have gone away for ever. It needs little imagination to realize that such thoughts might make a child feel himself responsible for having killed the person.

Guilt is less if the relationships in life between the bereaved and the dead person were good.

Telling a child he is dying is a very different situation and this will be shocked initially that this could ever be undertaken, especially if they have never been faced with the problem. Fortunately, relatively few parents in this country will be faced with the situation but all parents should consider the problem should it help in understanding more about how a child's mind works. Moreover, it is now clear that many older children and perhaps particularly teenagers, are frightened of death when in hospital, even

though their illness carries no risk. Presumably, since death for so many means words in hospital rather than at home, a child naturally associates illness in hospital with the possibility of death.

When a child has a lethal illness the essential need for his parents and for those caring for him is to be alert to his questions. If he asks whether he is going to die, better he should not be fobbed off with a lie. When the question arises it is right to take time and to ask why he put the question. But if it is clear he is asking about death, someone should tell him the truth. Having been given honest answers all his life he will find it difficult to comprehend if he is given a dishonest answer to the most important question he has ever asked. A lie in this situation breaks the communication between parents and child whereas the truth may actually be a relief to the child since he can now begin to communicate again with his parents. It is also possible to see such a child being able to comfort his grieving parents.

Children are more frightened by the thought of a painful death rather than the adult's fear of no longer existing. Television, both by films and its news, has emphasized painful deaths. These show in children's drawings of death, which bows and arrows and guns abound and red is the predominant colour. If adults evade the questions of a dying child he may consider that death must be even more painful and frightening than he has realized.

It will often be too much for the parents of a dying child to tell him the truth but a doctor or a favourite nurse can start the process of answering his questions to a point at which his parents can take over. Children in hospital are relieved when they are made aware that it is part of the duty of doctors and nurses to ensure that pain is removed from dying.

Talking about death is never easy and many parents will find it difficult to talk with their children on the subject. For some, a new and sensitively written book for children will help—*A Taste of Blackberries* by Doris Buchanan Smith. This is the fictitious story of a boy whose closest friend dies suddenly; it brings out many of the feelings such a child experiences.

*Book of Child Care* is published by George Allen & Unwin Ltd, London, price £5.50. *A Taste of Blackberries* is published by Heinemann Ltd, London, price £1.95.

Dr Hugh Jolly

John Tinker's recent article on the environment mentioned five big donors to the United Nations Environment Programme, omitting France, whose contribution of more than \$4m for 1973-75 is in fact the second largest after the United States.

## VERSEAS

Sihanouk concern at Khmer Rouge  
conditions for his return

King David Bonavia, Aug 12—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the final head of state of Cambodia, is seriously worried at the prospect of returning to his country on the terms specified by the Khmer Rouge, according to a knowledgeable source in the palace. The Prince, who has spent the last three months in North Korea, is reportedly worried for his safety and for that of his wife Princess Monique if he goes alone unaccompanied to Cambodia before the final escalation of the American military presence in Vietnam and the coup mounted by Marshal Lon Nol.

After he had taken up residence in Peking, Prince Sihanouk espoused the Khmer Rouge cause and made vigorous propaganda for it. His garbled Southern African dialogue on the terms for his return to Cambodia, after the Khmer Rouge victory, he claimed that he would soon return to Cambodia.

Meanwhile, however, Prince Sihanouk's mother died in Peking and this was a pretext for him to tarry here before going on a prolonged visit to

North Korea, where his normal flow of public statements and protests has abated. A self-confessed bon vivant and dilettante the prince has admitted the contradiction between his own style of life and that of the Khmer Rouge. However, as an ardent patriot he had hoped to return to Cambodia and act as titular head of state with particular responsibility for foreign affairs. He has been bitterly disappointed that the new rulers have made several important foreign policy decisions without consulting him. Indeed it is believed that for a long time he has had no regular contact with the Khmer Rouge.

Prince Sihanouk hopes to see Mr Chou En-lai, the ailing Chinese Prime Minister, if he comes to Peking this month while making up his mind whether to return to Cambodia on the terms laid down by the Khmer Rouge. He would like Mr Chou to give him an assurance that he will be correctly treated. But it seems unlikely that the Chinese leader will feel able to speak on behalf of a movement as secluded and independent as the Khmer Rouge.

US union accuses Vietnam refugees of strike breaking

Moorpark, California, Aug 12—The United Farm Workers' Union, a largely Mexican-American labour movement, has accused a group of South Vietnamese refugees of breaking its strike at one of the world's largest poultry farms. The 50 refugees, who found jobs at the farm through the efforts of a group called "Food for the Hungry", have refused to join a farm workers' strike which began a month ago. They speak little English and although their sponsors have asked them to stop work because of the potentially violent situation building up, they appear happy to continue. About 40 armed guards are surrounding the poultry farm, known as Egg City, while union members hold a series of demonstrations outside it. In refusing to join the union stoppage, the Vietnamese are indirectly giving support to the

Airlift for  
French  
begins from  
Saigon

Saigon, Aug 12—A Saigon-Bangkok airlift of foreigners, mainly French, which began today, will fly out about 6,000 people over the next few months. An agreement reached between the foreign section of the military committee of the Saigon area and the French Embassy, on the initiative of the French Government, laid down five flights weekly for two months. Each flight from Saigon will go to Bangkok with 65 passengers on board—50 French and 15 non-Vietnamese Asians. The flights will be made initially by the French UTA line, using a Caravelle normally based in Nouméa, New Caledonia, and then by Air France which has chartered the Caravelle operated by Royal Air Lao. Foreigners wishing to leave South Vietnam must comply with special new laws. They must report to a number of authorities, notably the Estate Department to discuss questions over any land or property belonging to them. They must also visit the National Foreign Currency Exchange and Precious Metals Office as well as the Cultural Service for the export of "artistic and cultural goods". A communiqué said that all foreigners leaving the country had to receive tax clearance and pay all outstanding debts—Agence France-Press.

Bangkok, Aug 12—A chartered airliner brought 73 foreign passengers from Saigon to Bangkok tonight. The passengers were predominantly French, 46 of whom were to continue on to Paris about midnight. Others on board were American, Belgian, Philippine, Thai, Japanese, Australian, Laotian, Indonesian and Malaysian. One of those leaving was Mr Heil Davis, a veteran freelance combat cameraman working for the BBC, NBC and Reuters. About 8,000 French and several thousand other foreigners stayed in South Vietnam after the Vietnam took Saigon on April 30. Recent travellers from Saigon said that many of the French, who maintained business and agricultural interests in Vietnam after the French Government is providing free passage home for French citizens, sources said—AP.



Dr Jim Cairns, former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia, lies in a Melbourne city square during a demonstration commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of Hiroshima.

Indus expedition  
success in  
rough waters

From Our Correspondent  
Srinagar, Aug 12—The leader of an expedition which sailed more than 90 miles down the Indus river at altitudes of up to 14,000 ft, yesterday described the expedition as a "complete success". Colonel Narendra Kumar, the leader of the Indo-German team of seven, said the voyage, in a rubber dinghy, had been a remarkable feat of boating in the roughest waters in the world.

Buenos Aires, Aug 12—President Isabel Perón today searched for a man willing to take on the crucial Economy Ministry and guide Argentina out of recession, unemployment and threatened bankruptcy. The post, filled by five ministers in the past 10 weeks, was the only one left vacant after yesterday's sweeping Cabinet reshuffle. Señor Ernesto Corvalán Nanciaris, the Justice Minister, a lawyer, temporarily took over the ministry for the second time in three weeks until a new man could be found. The difficulty in filling the

Civilians massacred  
by Muslim rebels

Manila, Aug 12—Thirty-three civilians were killed last week-end in a massacre as fighting spread in the southern Philippines between Government forces and Muslim rebels, military sources reported today. In one clash last Sunday 69 rebels were killed. The massacre of the civilians, who were alleged to have been shot after being tied up by the rebels, was on Saturday in Bukidnon province about 500 miles south-east of Manila. The encounter on Sunday was on Jolo Island about 300 miles south-west of Bukidnon. Jolo has been a centre of rebel activity in the Mindanao region where Muslim separatists have been in revolt for three years against President Ferdinand Marcos's military regime. The massacred civilians were in a lorry in a rebel-held village when they were attacked and captured by the insurgents. There were 35 people in the lorry and one was killed in the attack. The rest were bound and

taken to another village in Bukidnon, where they were shot. Two of the group survived and were taken to a hospital.

Army sources said the rebels, apparently took the civilians to Bukidnon, where fanatical minority tribes live, to mislead the authorities into thinking they were killed by the tribesmen. The Sunday clash took place in Kandamak village on Jolo Island. The Army's 30th Infantry Battalion fought about 150 rebels. The rebels withdrew to the Jolo hills after a four-hour battle, leaving behind 63 dead. The insurgents also suffered 53 wounded. Government casualties were six dead and 17 wounded.

The Army today sent a rifle company to reinforce hard-pressed troops fighting insurgents in the town of Wao which has a population of 16,000. Army units have also been flown to two towns near Wao to set up blocking positions as Government forces try to clear Wao of insurgents.

Mr Whitlam said he believed Mr Whitlam had promised to honour a pledge to give Papua New Guinea \$450,000 (about £200m) in aid over three years, starting last year. But Papua New Guinea wanted long-term guarantees over a five-year period.

"Mr Whitlam didn't come out and give me an answer when I asked him for this. But I am hoping we can still work something out," he said. As if to underline that view, leaving guerrillas were active in the night. More than 500,000 Government and municipal employees in the pro-

Weather  
modification  
'could be  
disastrous'

From Our Correspondent  
Geneva, Aug 12—Mr Joseph Martin, the American delegate, said at the 30-nation disarmament conference today that enough was now understood about the potentially disastrous consequences of trying to modify the environment to justify a treaty limiting such attempts. Apart from the dispersal of cold fogs, as successfully practised at airports, most of the techniques were still in the early stages of development, he said. Under certain limited conditions, rain and snow clouds could be modified locally. Results in mitigation of severe storms and hail suppression were still largely indeterminate, even if encouraging. No predictable techniques for climate modification yet existed. It should also be recognized that self-correcting forces in the earth's atmosphere tended to smooth out any short-term, local perturbations, however violent.

The effects of ocean modification, such as changing import and export of water, might well be catastrophic and irreversible. Mr Martin dismissed the idea that underground nuclear explosions could be used to trigger off an earthquake, unless one were already imminent in the vicinity. Lubrication of subterranean faults, by pumping in fluid under high pressure, would apparently set off small local earthquakes, but it was almost inconceivable that this could serve as a weapon. Effective limitations must be imposed, without inhibiting activities aimed at environmental modification for peaceful purposes, not detrimental to the natural environment, "should such modification prove feasible and valuable".

Labour sources said Señor Herrera, whose request for a price freeze and big Government credits to help businesses stay open and avert redundancies had been partially accepted by Señor Bonatti last week, considered the minister's dismissal sign of lack of confidence in his proposals.—Reuters.

I-clad police in  
Australia 'like  
dad's Army'

Our Correspondent  
Bourne, Aug 12—Uniformed police in Central Australia are beginning to look "Dad's Army", according to members of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly, who claim that because no new uniforms are being issued some officers have had to go on duty in plain clothes. When Sir John Kerr, the Governor-General, visited Central Australia recently, a number of officers apparently wore their trousers and winter coats in an effort to look uniformed. No summer uniforms have been issued since early last year. The MPs said police in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek, compared with the ill-equipped members of the television comedy "Dad's Army". One MP sent a telegram to the Governor-General asking if steps he was taking to come the problem.

No students killed  
college fight

Angkok, Aug 12—Two were killed in a fight today between students of technical college and a local education college in Angkok, in northern Thailand, reports said today.

British professor  
rescued on mountain

Hobart, Tasmania, Aug 12—A rescue party today brought Professor Maurice Walker, from Sheffield University, down from the snow-covered slopes of Mount Field, near Hobart, where he was lost.

Man dies when train  
coaches overturn

Belgrade, Aug 12—A man died and seven other people were injured when five coaches of a train overturned last night at Nova Banovica, 240 miles north-west of Belgrade.















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## How the business studies jungle is being sorted out

Vocational education is a jungle, at least at first sight. Not only are there hundreds of technical colleges, polytechnics and specialist institutes in existence, but there is also a complex scaffolding of qualifications. Partly, the jungle is a sign of exuberant healthy growth, because courses grow up closely tied to special local needs and the intricacies of particular businesses. Partly it is a consequence of the increasing interest that central government has taken in the past 15 years in further education, no longer the prosaic Cinderella to some very well-funded university expansion schemes.

But there are also some real areas of confusion, where not only is it hard for the consumer—whether he is a school-leaver or an adult—to recognize what practical is on offer; it is also hard for industry, the ultimate beneficiary, to recognize what it is getting and whether it wants it. Business studies is such a field, and one with some hope of rationalization in the future, with the setting up of the Business Education Council, which promises a policy plan early next year.

Unlike management studies, which have experienced an explosive expansion in the past decade, business studies have progressed rather slowly in this country. "Many employers, both large and small, have yet to be convinced of the value of granting day and block release to enable their staff to pursue business education courses," the Business Education Council says in its recently issued consultative document.

Management specialists confirm that the ignorance some firms still display about business studies qualifications is quite drastic. It is also little realized

that the government's efforts to boost re-training facilities have opened up an entirely new channel for adults to finance a change of career course by vocational study. The Training Opportunities Scheme (TOS), one of the services provided by the Training Services Agency, will make grants available for adults to take courses to fit them for a new career. Although they are primarily designed as incentives for employers, who find themselves over-specialized and redundant, it is also possible to get maintenance grants for a course even though one is not actually out of work.

Business studies occupy a field midway between the clerical courses and those with a high management content. Obviously, the fields they cover link closely with the requirements for professional qualifications for various bodies impose. Insurance, banking, chartered secretaries and transport commonly give exemptions for business studies higher courses.

One of the problems with such courses below degree level is that they have not yet been comprehensively interwoven with professional requirements: there is little national structure to the business education. The Business Education Council wants to see the process of liaison improved.

At degree level, the majority of the 30 polytechnics now offer a full-scale degree in business studies. At HND level, which is designed to be a pass degree less, this is probably where the bulk of vacancies are still to be found at this point in the summer.

Since 1970 the Department of Education and Science has set up an in-

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The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft General Scheme of the Church of England's property and income.

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## Secretarial and General Appointments also on pages 20 and 21

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Photo-composition in The Times: preparation of the Stock Exchange prices page.

## Working miracles on provincial newspapers

While national newspaper managements were still thinking in the fifties of hot metal and assuming that web-offset and computerization were only for the smaller-run papers, regional papers, with greater need to fight for the future than the wealthy nationals, went ahead and modernized.

In Essex, at QB printers, they started with second-hand plant and soon supplemented with new plant to produce their own local papers plus a great many titles for IPC's magazines and trade tabloid divisions. In fact, that is how IPC came to acquire a majority in QB. Mr Woodrow Wyatt followed suit at Banbury and built up contract printing to feed the healthy local markets with cash and to support them with modern equipment. The modernization ran across Britain, and the regionals profited.

It was said to be so easy in the provinces and so difficult in Fleet Street. The regionals had shorter runs, cooperative workers, less union power. It was all so relaxed and the manning agreements were so much more realistic. Few stopped to wonder why the main-line levies were better. Few stopped to think, among the nationals, that regionals actually began to build for the future by fighting back at a difficult present. And even fewer realized that they had been among the guilty men who had so encouraged over-manning during the cheap days, when raw materials cost so little and sales drew so much in circulation and advertising revenue. All they had ever thought was born of emotion—that the show had to go on nightly.

They are not publicized much, but miracles have been happening in the regions, or near-miracles if you remember that printing trades have been involved in peace-time agreements. The moral is first that managements can do it and second that unions will work with them if it is done properly.

There are success stories of all kinds. Like the two young men in their mid-thirties, Bill Furburth and Bill Vicary, who took a package to printers and publishers Wilson and Whitworth that led to an agreement to turn loss into profit. W and W were in trouble with the 116-year-old *Stratford Express* and the 111-year-old *Harrow Express* (the *Ramford Times* until about a year ago). The papers were popular with local loyalists but were being crippled by costs.

The two Bills turned £100,000 loss into profit in the second year (which ended in February 1974). The profit, after deducting extraordinary expenses of £84,000 for redundancies, closures and relocation at Milton Keynes, was £61,000, with turnover high on £1m. They got help, advice, paternal management, consultancy and other helping hands from Hambros, and they built a modern printing plant at Milton Keynes, where demarcation is virtually non-existent and where all pull together for personal job satisfaction and for the group's good.

They paid well, recruited good men from other regions, and found a first-class finance director who knew how to exercise control. They dealt with the Printing and Media Trades Federation before cutting the first sod for the "hangar" that houses the production titles all over the country. The day that the roof of the Portakabin in the works was the day they knew they had been right to believe there is no such word as impossible.

The unions were told what specific jobs were available and

As the dust settles on the Court Line affair how does it leave the office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman? Much weakened, according to some MPs.

A sharp knock has been delivered to the Parliamentary Ombudsman's office, declared the chairman of the select committee, Mr Charles Fletcher-Cooke, in the House of Commons debate last week. Others have been less

temperate. It is easy to understand their pessimism. This is not the first time that the government of the day have rejected the Ombudsman's findings. But it is the first time they have done so on a case of such importance attended by so much publicity. So far as the complaints are concerned, the Ombudsman has upheld their claim and much good has it done them. They have seen Mr Wedgwood Benn win a parliamentary success in attacking the report, and they are not to get any more compensation. They have seen their champion floor with greater political might, which must be disappointing for them and may not be thought a good advertisement for him.

But to leave it at that, as some MPs do, is to present only the less significant half of the picture. The very publicity attracted by the Court Line case must have made more people aware of the office. Even before this the number of cases referred to him had been rising sharply. Whereas they had been running at about 600 a year for two or three years, they rose to over 700 last year and look likely to approach a thousand this year. One would expect after this latest drama there would be a further increase. That is all the more likely because the publicity has concentrated on the conflict between the Ombudsman and a senior minister.

There have been two Ombudsmen so far, Sir Edmund Compton and now Sir Alan Marre, both sedate civil servants with an aura of reassuring shrewdness but hardly the appearance of men likely to buck the system. The popular impression has been of rather grey men doing little bits of good in a quiet way, but too close to the official machine in their experience and attitudes ever to be a really powerful force for individual liberties. It is this false impression of an excessively cautious Ombudsman that has now been destroyed. Court Line has served to establish the credibility of the office by highlighting its independence.

It has also enabled the Ombudsman not so much to extend the definition of maladministration but to set out one part of that definition more fully than ever before. The application of the Act around the meaning of maladministration. Parliament did not seek to define it. Speaking as Lord President of the Council on the second reading of the Bill in 1966 Mr Richard Crossman gave some examples of what he had in mind—"bias, neglect, inattention, delay, incompetence."

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course of a skilful debating speech that was all the more successful because Conservative front bench spokesmen seemed unable to decide which target they were aiming for or even whether they really wished to hit it. Mr Benn contended that these were policy matters, that he had been exercising his judgment as a minister in determining how far in his statements he could qualify his confidence in the company's continued existence in jeopardy. It was a point of substance that might have carried even more weight if he could have made up his mind whether he was arguing that he had qualified his assurances, as the Ombudsman said he should have done, or that it would have been unsafe to do so.

It is indeed laid down in the Act that "nothing in this Act authorizes or requires the Commissioner to question the merits of a decision taken without maladministration by a government department or other authority in the exercise of a discretion vested in that department or authority."

But what Parliament appeared to have in mind was simply to avoid the Ombudsman giving a second opinion on all questions, such as planning appeals, which had been statutorily given to ministers to decide. If that clause were to be of general application it would be virtually impossible for the Ombudsman to condemn any misleading statement on an issue of importance unless there were faults in the process by which it was prepared. What he has said in effect, in the Court Line case and again over the invalidity of statements made and in financial loss, is caused that will be enough.

Although the Ombudsman has given no general pronouncement, the logic of his judgments is that ministers will not be able to plead highly sensitive areas—such as foreign affairs, security, control of crime, appointments and presumably the currency—were specifically excluded from his jurisdiction in the Act. But that still leaves a wide territory. Ministers may challenge his understanding of his powers, but it is up to him to interpret the Act. This means that ministers could at any time find themselves condemned in one of his reports if they cannot justify the accuracy of their statements—outside Parliament at any rate: a statement made only in Parliament and not distributed by a departmental press notice does not seem to qualify as an administrative act.

This is a far-reaching development which could help to set more rigorous standards for the conduct of public life in Britain, but it is open to two quite different objections. The first is whether it is really appropriate to give powers of scrutiny to ministers by an appointed official. Could what began as an instrument to control the

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But to leave it at that, as some MPs do, is to present only the less significant half of the picture. The very publicity attracted by the Court Line case must have made more people aware of the office. Even before this the number of cases referred to him had been rising sharply. Whereas they had been running at about 600 a year for two or three years, they rose to over 700 last year and look likely to approach a thousand this year. One would expect after this latest drama there would be a further increase. That is all the more likely because the publicity has concentrated on the conflict between the Ombudsman and a senior minister.



Sir Alan Marre: An aura of reassuring shrewdness.

## Time we took the guesswork out of government

Eric Moonman

Five pounds was a lot to pay, but many of you took my advice last month and bought the third report of the Committee of Public Accounts and were suitably alarmed by the way in which public money was handled.

Without proper checks—over £78m to the bakery industry—or tax lost through inadequate monitoring—more than £35m in VAT.

I wouldn't dream of letting politicians still less ministers off the hook by suggesting they are blameless, but the question does arise whether it isn't time we probed the nature of the whole of Government decision-making rather than specific cases of failure as they appear.

The relationship between civil servants and politicians is critical. Unfortunately, it is still regarded by many as a case of Players versus Gentlemen, the real professionals being, of course, the civil servants. Better, I suspect, the MPs job reflects this attitude, from the poor servicing (not to mention their pay) to the refusal to allow them a normal working day: as was said in 1910, "being an MP is an evening hobby."

The result is that the making of executive decision-making is a myth. Our cherished constitution, which never quite lives up to the claims made for it, could be scrapped tomorrow if we borrowed one or two ideas from the Americans. Congress, for example, in addition to its own research staff, the American Congress has access to a research bank, supported by a leading research institute, which enables him to be both better informed and better equipped to press the executive than his opposite number in the House of Commons.

We can also learn something from the United States about methods for improving the quality of legislation. The House of Representatives, even more than the Senate, keeps a close watch on the way legislation is implemented and, as a result of the Hansen Plan, which came into operation last October, its "oversight" committee has become even more effective, and seven of them, including those responsible for assessing the budget, education, and the

armed forces, have been given special responsibilities which enable them to step outside the limits of their jurisdiction in pursuit of particular investigations.

Monitoring legislation after it has been passed would avoid the present situation where once an Act is through Parliament we wash our hands of it, and those most concerned can only cast their fingers at the Government.

It would also lead to more forethought and care in drafting. The time-lag between the making of a law and its coming into effect which would ensue in all but emergency cases, would enable those who are to operate it to prepare themselves to do so.

It is actually the time-scale of decision-making among other things that concerns me here. How much longer can we tolerate the lurching from crisis to crisis that has gone on since 1945, and the extent to which it is called the British disease? Neither the politicians nor the economists (who have so frequently been their advisers) can any longer get away with blaming our troubles solely on poor industrial relations, bad balances of trade between imports and exports, low energy, and so on. These are all relevant, but they are only symptoms of the more fundamental disease, which is that government decision-making in its very nature is too casual, too short-term, and too ill-planned.

Certainly long-term planning (six years plus) does not feature very largely in Government thinking. Last week I questioned 15 senior ministers about the time-scale and range of their departmental investigations. Ten, including Trade, Industry, the Environment, Agriculture, the Home Office and the Treasury said that long-term projections were made only from time to time for internal use.

Every minister, with the exception of the Foreign Office, which referred to "broad assumptions about medium term requirements" stated that "specific plans for the allocation of resources do not extend beyond the limits of the annual White Papers on public expenditure." This leads to some ludicrous results in practice and accounts for much of the frustration felt by industry in their dealings with government.

For example, the CEBG complained to the Select Committee on Science and Technology that every year they are held up waiting for Treasury approval for their annual budget, even where the expenditure of particular sums relates to an approved long-term project such as the building of a nuclear power station.

The best evidence of future planning came from the Department of Energy, which has projected energy use and the energy mix through to 1990, and also prepared a 10-year plan for the coal industry.

The answers demonstrated the inadequacy of the parliamentary question. Nine of the replies were virtually identical, and the majority, with the exception of Health, Energy, and Education, in answer to the rest of the question on the use of socio-economic models and overseas experience, said they would be "pleased to receive" my advice on these matters.

Despite this, there are signs that individual ministers are aware that there is a problem. Here I must pay tribute to Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary at the Treasury, who issued a press notice during the progress of the Finance Bill through the House, inviting interested parties to comment or make representations on it. He now tells me that a number of the 159 replies he received raised sufficient new issues to make the exercise worth while, at least to him.

Parliamentarians and ministers alike must look more closely at the way business is conducted on behalf of the nation. Until this is done we shall go on getting inadequate replies to serious questions.

The author is Labour MP for Basildon.

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## Flying may become the exclusive preserve of the jet set

Flying in Europe has already moved into the luxury bracket for many travellers

A colleague quoted £50.80 by a travel agent for the return air journey from London to Paris said that he did not really want to travel first class, but would be happy to go tourist.

He was quoted £50.80 is the tourist fare today. To go first class costs £76.40.

This cautionary tale illustrates just how sky-high air fares have gone as a result of twin pressures: on the world airline industry of inflation and fuel costs. Over the past four years many fares have just about doubled—and more rises are on the way.

To fly tourist class between London and either Glasgow, Edinburgh or Belfast and back now costs £38. Applications being considered by the Civil Aviation Authority, which has already stated its belief that United Kingdom domestic air travel is under-priced, would put this up to £42 from November 1.

From the same date, air fares across the north Atlantic will almost certainly go up by four per cent. The 20 scheduled international Air Transport Association airlines, involved in this market have already virtually agreed on such an increase, blaming fuel costs and currency adjustments.

It can already cost you as much as £464.60 return to fly between London and New York. The price of a first-class ticket, valid for 12 months (when Concorde comes on the route in 1976 the return fare will be in the region of £550). At the other end of the scale, it is doubtful if you will find a cheaper fare than the £29, promised for next winter by the independent airline Laker Airways.

This is an advance booking charter (ABC) rate which has to be booked at least two months in advance, but Laker enterprising offers many of the attractions available in the first-class cabins of the scheduled airlines at over four times the price, such as free hot meals, free drinks, free multi-channel stereo, and free in-flight films.

Between these two extremes come a complicated list of differing fares offered by the scheduled carriers, ranging

in price from an advance purchase excursion (APEX), which has to be booked two months in advance, at £118.50 return in winter, to the economy return, valid for a year, at £234.60.

Trends in European airline fares usually follow closely those on the north Atlantic, so it may not be long before the rates on the routes to the Continent go up again. For many travellers, flying in Europe has already moved into the luxury bracket. The Paris flight is expensive, but it costs (all figures for tourist return travel from London) £228.60 to Athens, £174.60 to Catania, in Sicily, £117.80 to Nice, and £135.80 to Vienna.

Although the airlines have said that they are interested in introducing them, APEX fares do not apply in general, to those destinations where the scheduled airlines have cheaper rates than those quoted above. But to take most of them up means travelling at inconvenient times of the night, or that your stay at your destination is extremely limited.

Never has it been more necessary to employ a reliable travel agent. It is in specific cases that a travel agent can recommend one of the cut-price travel firms advertising in newspapers that is offering, including holidays at Christmas, the New Year to Geneva with the air-fair package costing £139.50 return respect to tourist return fare it is £59.60 and to Zurich £59.60. Scheduled British flights are used, and many will either make modulation arrangements, clients, or will leave do so on their own a the "package". Imp in the efficiency of the airlines have been cheap travel industry, arrival of the jets the travel across the Atlantic early 1960s was far cheaper than it is today. But up against inflated fuel costs increases, the days have gone. The cent growth which airlines enjoyed for years has been checked and reversed in some cases.

Many airlines with names are now in financial trouble as a result of the new jet age. They are trapped—rapidly rising costs, fares put up to recoup, passengers not to travel because expensive. Significant number of passengers from Heathrow airport fell last year for the first time since the Second World War. There was a decrease of almost 3 per cent.

All the airlines can for is a gradual public acceptance of their new jet coupled with a slow rise in their own rate of return. If the spiral continues present pace, seats or used services will be filled by the extremely wealthy members of the international business community by the end of the decade.

Arthur Air Corres

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Arthur Air Corres

## The Times Diary

### British Rail lose track over London

Who removed a cycling track from the roof of the British Railways Board's headquarters building in Marylebone Road? It was there, a reader assures me, in 1944, when identifying this peculiar piece of rooftop equipment from an aerial photograph was a test exercise set at the School of Military Intelligence in Marlow, Bath. (Nobody succeeded apparently.) Yet a British Rail press officer who ventured to the roof in search of it recently (and nearly fell off in the attempt) says that no sign of it remains.

The cycling track was constructed around the chimney stacks at the turn of the century when the Great Central Railway opened the building as the Hotel Great Central serving Marylebone Station. One version says that the chairman wanted his board members to cycle off the effects of heavy lunching, another that it was

intended as a facility to offer the hotel guests. The hotel only survived as such until the First World War when it became a casualty clearing station, and has served as offices ever since. None of the present maintenance staff remembers the cycling track or knows what became of it, and as yet British Rail have not been able to discover any surviving photographs.

### Diplomatic news

British newspapers have much to learn from the Jakarta when it comes to frank and fearless reporting of diplomatic functions. I have been sent a report from *The Indonesia Times* of July 24 about the fifty-eighth birthday party of Adam Malik, the foreign minister. "Hundreds of relatives and close friends," it reports,

"came to facilitate the minister and to partake of the food served galore on the tables. None of them were invited."

Then it describes the arrival of a delegation from an Eastern European embassy, which diplomatic and legal considerations persuaded me not to identify. They were "already busy" when they came, but still demanded more champagne.

When they left they were "between tipsy and drunk or both." The ambassador's wife kept asking some male guests to give her a kiss on the cheek.

"She made a beautiful picture when holding a glass of champagne in an unsteady hand and pouring some of it on the carpeted floor. She walked about using her hand to sometimes pull at her long dress. When they at last shook hands with the Minister to say goodbye, she crumpled to the floor and only stood up with the help of Mr. Malik's T. 100."

### Fish nuts

Following our story about Norwegian herrings yesterday, Dr W. J. Lyon Dean, chairman of the Herring Industry Board in Edinburgh, reports that the British fishing industry was

making protein flour out of fish 18 years ago. They baked bread out of fish powder, and sent fish-based ginger biscuits to Mauritius, where they were a big hit with children.

But the project ended when Government funds were withdrawn. With the rigid quota system now holding out hope of much larger herring harvests within the next few years, Dr Lyon Dean is pressing for the scheme to be resumed.

### Walk out

People who ask the mayor of Hackney to functions on Saturdays and Jewish holidays find his car arriving empty. The only sign of the mayor, councillor Arthur Super, being his chain of office lying on the back seat. The mayor follows his car on foot.

Councillor Super says: "I never travel by car on Saturdays and Jewish festivals. However, it would be unwise to walk through the streets of Hackney wearing the chain as I could be a target for muggers, so I send it on by car."

Now the mayor aims to combine his orthodoxy with a little money-making by getting people to sponsor his walks. "I am to walk about 150 miles by the end

of the mayoral year and I would like to raise £1,500. The money will go into the Mayor's Charity Fund which is used to help various deserving causes in the borough."

### Digging in

Like us, Americans are responding to the recession of the seventies by going back to the soil. Allotments are getting popular there, too, only they are called "community gardens" and have been created by companies, religious organizations and state governments.

Their growth has been spectacular. One estimate is that there are now 3,000 large tracts being used for this purpose across the country, compared with only 500 last year.

In Louisville, Kentucky, Citizens' Fidelity Bank has fenced in 100 acres to create 5,000 plots, each 20ft by 40ft. The yearly rental is \$3—much more than the 35¢ pay for my Brixton plot. Gene Smith, vice-president of the bank estimates that a canny gardener can take away nearly £250 worth of vegetables a year.

Community gardens are also being used by politicians eager to gain favour with the electorate. Governor Milton Shapp of Pennsylvania launched a state gardening programme by distributing free packets of seeds, bearing his name.

Some see community







## SOCIAL NEWS

The Queen will attend a thanksgiving service in Bangor Cathedral, Eire, in celebration of the 1,450th anniversary of the first Christian settlement by St David on the site of the present building, on November 7.

The Duke of Kent, as president, will visit the headquarters of the Scout Association at Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, on September 30.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron of John Grooms Association for the Disabled, will visit the Able Disabled Exhibition at Guildhall, London, on October 6.

Princess Alexandra, on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the Armed Forces Art Society, will open the annual exhibition at the Chert Galleries, London, on October 30.

Viscountess Hereford gave birth to a son at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, on August 11.

### Birthdays today

Sir John Bunting, 57; Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Burrell, 71; Sir Moore Crosswaite, 68; Sir John Dykes Bower, 70; Air Vice-Marshal K. V. Garside, 62; Mr Alfred Hitchcock, 76; Sir Laurence Lundy, 64; Major Sir Reuben Maudslay, 60; Sir James Richards, 68; Lord Sainsbury, 73; Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Smallwood, 57; Sir Basil Spence, 65; Sir Humphrey Walcock, QC, 71.

## Spirit of King Arthur lives on

From Michael Horsnell

Exeter If the middle-aged woman standing on the platform at Exeter station yesterday is any indication the spirit of King Arthur is alive and well in the West Country.

She may not have been able to fulfil Merlin's promise of Arthur's return, but, with the fortune of Sir Bedivere and the aid of a placard nearby as recasting as Excalibur, she sorted out some very important academic Arthurian personages from among the crowds of holidaymakers and directed them to the university.

Exeter is playing host to the eleventh congress of the International Arthurian Society, which for the next eight days will be celebrating the rich Arthurian literary legend with lectures and visits.

Yesterday, 475 delegates from countries as rich in the legend as France and as unrich as Brazil arrived.

They numbered many of the world's leading authorities on the subject, plus a party of Japanese who seem to be attracted by the traditions of honour and heroism, and 14 Americans who are now in the middle of an agency-planned Arthurian tour of Britain.

The three-yearly congress has

### Forthcoming marriage

Dr M. G. A. Vale and Miss J. E. Cockett The engagement is announced between Malcolm, only son of Mr and Mrs A. P. Vale, of East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire, and Juliet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs G. H. Cockett, of Orplington, Kent.

The marriage arranged between Mr P. R. Caroe and Miss S. E. Drew will not take place.

### Latest wills

#### Bequest to buy stretch of coast

Mrs Doris Amy Sealy, of Earls Court, left £89,010 net (no duty shown). After £1,500 to personal legacies she left four Alfred Wallis oil paintings to the Tate Gallery, and half the residue to the RSPCA and half to the National Trust for the purchase of some part of the Cornish coast under Souterine Neptune.

Miss Muriel Gertrude Wayman, of Rustington, left £38,290 net (no duty shown). After legacies of £1,700, she left the residue to St Martin-in-the-Fields, London.

Miss Christina Daisy Sutherland, of Patcham, left £89,395 net (no duty shown). After bequests of £8,400 to personal legacies, she left the residue equally among the British Red Cross Society, Institute of Cancer Research and the Animal Health Trust.

### Marriages

Mr R. Walter and the Hon Mrs D. de Laszlo The marriage took place at Wimsey on Saturday, August 9, between Mr Roderick Walter and the Hon Mrs Deborah de Laszlo.

Mr D. O. Crouch and Mrs M. W. Weekes The marriage took place quietly at Epping Register Office yesterday between Mr D. O. Crouch, only son of the late Mr and Mrs O. C. Crouch, and Mrs M. W. Weekes, only daughter of Mr and Mrs F. S. Poole. Relatives and friends were present.

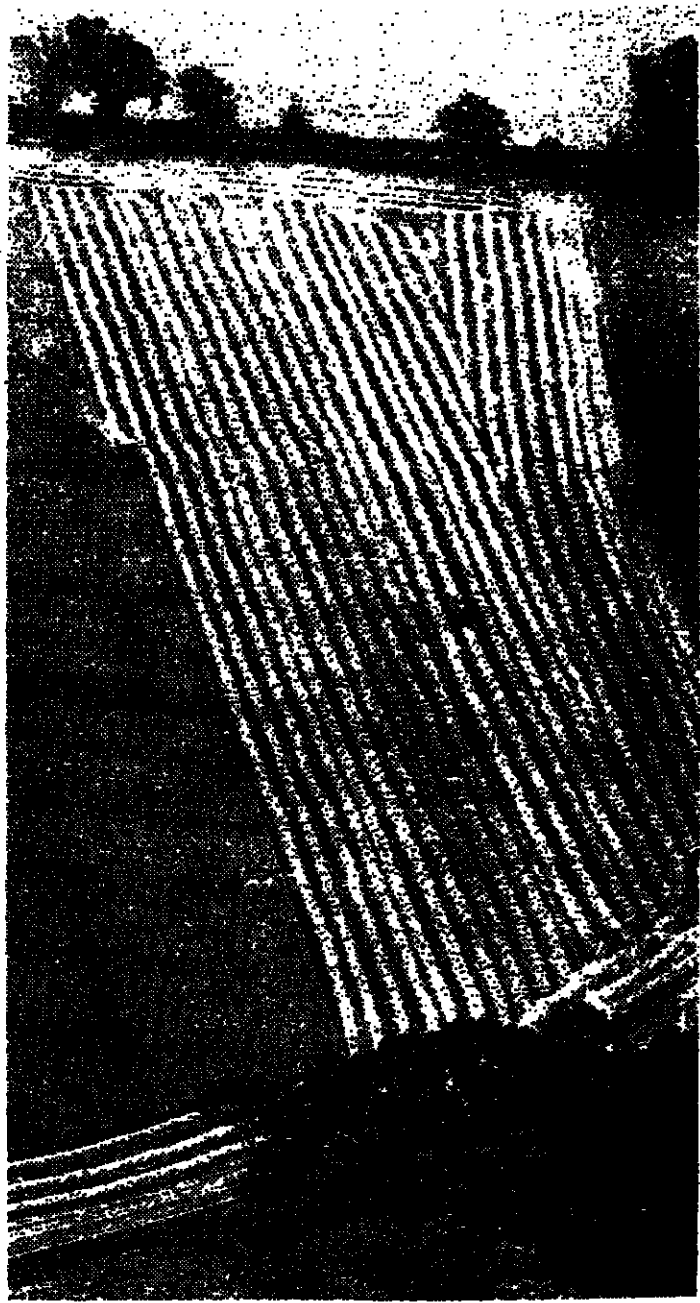
### Luncheons

Lady Reid Sir Norman Reid, Director of the Tate Gallery, and Lady Reid were hosts yesterday at a luncheon held at the gallery in honour of the artist, Mr Richard Smith, on the occasion of the private view of the exhibition of his work which opens at the gallery today.

West India Committee The West India Committee held a luncheon yesterday in honour of the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr S. S. Ramphal. Mr F. P. Tata, chairman of the committee, presided.

### Royal Naval College

The Painted Hall and Chapel in the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, will be closed to the public on August 29 and September 5.



Pattern of the harvest as a combine harvester worked in a field near Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, yesterday.

### Church news

#### Appointments

The Rev R. N. Bowler, Rector of Sandiacre, diocese of Lincoln, to be Vicar of Clons, diocese of Truro. The Rev D. T. Tonge, curate of St Nicholas, diocese of Lincoln, to be Vicar of St. Francis, diocese of Worcester. The Rev J. E. Williams, priest-in-charge of St. Clare's, diocese of Portsmouth, to be Rector of St. Peter's, diocese of Waltham. The Rev R. W. Smith, Chaplain of Oakwood Hospital, Maidstone, to be Vicar of Clons, diocese of Truro. The Rev D. T. Tonge, curate of St. Nicholas, diocese of Lincoln, to be Vicar of St. Francis, diocese of Worcester. The Rev J. E. Williams, priest-in-charge of St. Clare's, diocese of Portsmouth, to be Rector of St. Peter's, diocese of Waltham. The Rev R. W. Smith, Chaplain of Oakwood Hospital, Maidstone, to be Vicar of Clons, diocese of Truro.

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## Marble players plan a championship

From Our Correspondent

East Grinstead The first British Commonwealth and European marbles championship are to be held at the Copthorne Hotel, near East Grinstead, on August 24. They will be run under the rules of the British Isles Marbles Association, formed six months ago by a group of Sussex enthusiasts.

Mr Eric Lay, the association's chairman, said yesterday that seven teams of four players representing England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, South Africa, the West Indies and Australia will compete for a trophy provided by the hotel, which is sponsoring the event.

The hotel had built a concrete ring in the grounds with a trap to catch the scattered marbles.

### Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr Alistair McAlpine, director of Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons Ltd, to be a joint treasurer of the Conservative Party. Mr P. E. Brown, Assistant Secretary of the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, to be Deputy Secretary of the British Academy from October 1.

Professor J. G. D. Clark, Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge, to be a trustee of the British Museum for five years, the nominee of the Society of Antiquaries.

### Science report

## Astronomy: Neutrinos

Astronomers may be failing to detect neutrinos from the Sun not because none is produced but because of unconsidered chemical reactions in their detectors. That, Dr Kenneth Jacob of Virginia University says, is a solution to the "solar neutrino problem" and deserves serious consideration since all other explanations have failed.

Neutrinos are elusive, fast moving elementary particles produced during nuclear reactions including, according to theory, the reactions that keep the Sun hot. But they are elusive because neutrino detectors have to be placed well below ground, in sites like deep mines, to screen out the effects of other particles reaching the Earth from space.

Even then, a typical detector contains nearly 400,000 litres of a fluid (the hydrocarbon oil) in which the experimenters hope to trap no more than a few dozen neutrinos in a day. So the technique is, at best, on the margins of practicality and prone to errors. If a neutrino from the Sun is trapped in a "swimming pool" detector, it interacts with one of the chlorine atoms in the fluid in such a way that an atom of argon-37 is produced. What the experimenters actually measure is the number of argon-37 atoms present in the fluid after it has been "exposed" for several days: those particular argon atoms can be counted accurately because of their radioactivity. But over many years such experiments have persistently disclosed only a few atoms of argon-37 where there should, according to theory, be a few dozen.

So far explanations of the discrepancy between theory and observation have come in three categories. It has been suggested that either the theory of nuclear physics is wrong, or our understanding of what goes on in the Sun's interior is wrong, or the way neutrinos interact with chlorine atoms is not properly understood. Those possibilities remain. But now Dr Jacob offers a possibility that might explain the phenomenon without requiring so deeply at the roots of established ideas.

## OBITUARY

### SIR PETER DAUBENY

#### Theatre diplomat

O.T. writes:

May I add to the very full tribute to Sir Peter Daubeny which appeared on August 7 some points from my own experience? Daubeny was held in the highest esteem, not only over here, but also abroad, by the theatre people he had to do with.

The most experienced director would listen to Daubeny's advice and take heed. The thorny problem of what to trim and how to bring overlong performances down to manageable lengths was usually solved with an inexhaustible tact, that occasionally needed to be backed up by a show of strength. But this was always supported by the expert knowledge of theatre technique and practice, so that a common language was found and agreement soon reached. Once or twice, this failed to work. Swinowski's production of *For the Cause* in April last was not trimmed as promised.

Daubeny had invited to London to prove recalcitrant was Peter Stein. He told Daubeny after the first night in Berlin that not a word, not a gesture, nor a pause, of his production of *The Prince of Homburg* would be taken out. The project was abandoned.

Daubeny was also personally responsible for bringing together at his London home the Administrators of the Comedie Francaise, Pierre Dux, his leading actor, Robert Hirsch, and the English director, Terry Hands in a discussion which led to Hands's staging *Richard III* in Paris, the first English play to be staged at the National Theatre, where it was

followed two years later by his *Pericles*. For this service, Daubeny was appointed a Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters in July last, and I had the pleasure of bringing him the news at M. Dux's request shortly before he died. Daubeny was plainly overjoyed not so much at the additional honour among so many, but rather at the thought of Hands's triumph and the theatrical "cross-fertilization" that had taken place.

At the same time, he could be diplomatically firm. When the Czech government cancelled the exit visa of Otonar Krejca, director and leading actor of the Theatre Behind the Gate, on the eve of their second visit to London with *Three Sisters*, Daubeny moved heaven and earth to get the Czech authorities to honour the terms of their contract; and, having failed, he refused to be blackmailed, preferring to close the Aldwych for a week rather than renege on a friend.

This also worked the other way. Several producers, like Karolos Koun in Athens, after experiencing difficulties at home, were encouraged by offers to stage the premieres of their new works in London. Daubeny was never over-enthusiastic about the prospect of a play at the Aldwych Theatre, given by Daubeny.

His second book, *My World of Theatre*, has appeared in German and Polish, the Polish edition containing much additional material on the Polish theatre, written by Daubeny on the strength of the visits made to Poland after the book had appeared in English.

### MR MUIR MATHIESON

Edgar Anstey writes:

Muir Mathieson belonged to a perhaps diminishing band of people who believe that when the film is given its full creative potential it is more akin to music than to the novel or to the theatre.

It was in the second half of his career when he moved from the musical direction of Ealing films to an even more influential role in documentary that he began to weave the separate threads of words, pictures, sound effects and music into rhythmic and contrapuntal patterns more powerful than the sum of the parts which constituted them. To bring this about he did not need to be the producer (although occasionally he did produce from Film Centre) nor did he more than rarely need to compose the music himself. Instead he would bring to bear upon the rest of the film-making team that mixture of scathing sarcasm and mischievous wit which in my experience never failed to engender enthusiasm for his practical solutions to those problems which the rest of us could only articulate in

theoretical terms. For like John Grierson, with whom he shared certain film-making insights which are pearls in the pre-war repertoire of the Scots, he would permit no talk of Art.

Great composers deferred to his judgment in their work. I remember a recording session with Ralph Vaughan Williams whom Muir had persuaded to compose a score for *The Exploitation of Elizabeth*. After conducting a first rehearsal in the studio Muir suggested—without noticeable diffidence—a few drastic changes which would enable the music better to illuminate the pictures. Shakespeare's verse and John Galsworthy's prose commentary, I feared this might place some temporary strain upon the long-standing relationship between the two men of music but Vaughan Williams agreed to cuts and transpositions not only readily but with enthusiasm. Indeed it is the shared enthusiasm of those musical sessions which many of Muir Mathieson's friends will most miss, knowing them to have belonged to a period in the history of the film which is unlikely to be repeated.

### TORALV OKSNEVAD

H. D. W. writes:

The death in Oslo of Toralv Oksnevad evokes memories of one of Norway's outstanding personalities of the war years.

As head of the team of Norwegian broadcasters who managed to escape to England soon after the German occupation in 1940, to work in cooperation with the BBC European Service, his was the voice, more than any other—with its calm, clear message of confidence and hope—which helped to keep up morale among the Norwegian people in those harassing years.

The "Voice from London" was eagerly awaited by listeners throughout Norway, often at great personal risk to themselves, and his name became a household word in its truest sense. The love and esteem in which he was held became

vividly apparent after the war on his return to Norway, when he toured the length and breadth of the country to the rapturous acclamation of the population.

A great Norwegian patriot, dedicated to his task, supreme artist of the spoken word, warm hearted, intensely loyal, Oksnevad was held in the greatest respect by his BBC colleagues with whom he worked closely and among whom he made many lasting friends.

Lord Rellw, MBE, has died at the age of 86. He was the 3rd Baron Rellw. His brother, The Hon Bryan Bertram Rellw, MC, succeeds him.

The Hon Rupert Edward Selborne, Kupper, DSO, has died at the age of 97. He was the presumptive heir to his nephew, the 11th Viscount Barrington.

## ROMILLY CAVAN

### Novelist and playwright

A correspondent writes:

In 1934 Romilly Cavan, died on August 3 at the age of 61, in St George's Hospital, the publisher, J. M. I. youngest novelist, Her novel, *Heron*, published in America by Dutton as *Daughters of Richard*, had been written while she still in her teens at Walling where she lived with her mother, Diana Patrick, an editorial adviser. R. Church, saw in it all the qualities that, three years later, Howard Spring, saying of *Daughters of Richard*, "I commend Romilly Cavan to work with all my faith as I hope because it is new, good. Here is a book with hope and belief is a poet in English literature."

Michael Sadleir at Connaught had published *Character Order of Appearance*. Heinemann issued her novels: *Mary Todd*, in *Daughters of Richard*, *Evening Standard Book of the Month* in 1940. Paper rations during the war like and she turned with enthusiasm from Mr Noel Coward's theatre.

Her first play was *My World of Theatre*, given by H. M. Tennent with Sinclair, his wife Valerie, and Glynis Johns, as directed by Lillian Brindley, daughter, Joyce Carey, was given at the Liverpool Court Theatre where it was given its first night.

Romilly Cavan's first production was *Royal Cy Wyndham's Theatre*, and Ralph Richardson, and Lillian Brindley in the roles. A year later, *Observer*, on Mr N. Tynan's advice, include play, *My Own Work*, the prize-winning entries play competition at Bristol, with Mary H. the leading role. It was produced as a television Miss Cavan went on to more television plays of *Cherry Was My Darling* (1952), and *My Own Work* (1952).

For some time before death from cancer R. Cavan was *Plays & P* playwright reviewer, and to Ernest Hogan of the *Full Court Press* for *Indoor Books* list.

She had been married 1940 to Mr Eric Hiscoe, book trade columnist, "friar".

### ALFRED L. LOO

Alfred L. Loomis, an can pioneer in the development of radar has died at the age of 87.

Loomis was instrumental in establishing what was to be the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's radiation laboratory where much work was done. He was Chair of the Microwave Committee during the National Defense Research Committee during the World War and in 1940, on a magnetron which he brought to the United States for study by a British scientist. The magnetron is the basis for workable equipment.

He was also a pioneer development of the navigation system. Mr Leo Ross, one of the authors of Rhodesia's Declaration of Independence, is in Salisbury, at the age of 86. He was a member of the Government Direct Information he drafted it of the declaration, proc in November 1965, with David Williams.

He was also an adviser Ian Smith at the constitutional talks with the British Government.

### Society of Apothecaries of London

The following have been elected officers of the Society of Apothecaries of London for the ensuing year: Master, Dr E. Grey-Turner; Senior Warden, Professor R. D. Teare; Junior Warden, Mr I. Jackson.

### Today's engagements

Exhibition: Turner Watercolours, British Museum, 10-5. Royal Mews open to public, Buckingham Palace, 2-4. Morris dancing by London Pride Morris Men, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster Abbey, 8. Organ recital by Jonathan Rennett, Westminster Cathedral, 8. City Walk: Bankside, Shakespeare's London: Meet Southwark Cathedral steps, London Bridge, 6.30.

### 25 years ago

From The Times of 18 August 12, 1950

From Our Special Correspondent Strasbourg, Aug 11—A mot Mr Churchill, calling for the creation of a European parliament, approved this evening by a unanimous vote of the Assembly of 1950 by 89 votes to 17 abstentions.

Before the vote was taken this resolution a committee was appointed at the suggestion of Mr Churchill, to draft a joint resolution would reconcile Mr Churchill's proposals with other similar subjects and the two thirds majority. Mr Dalton said earlier in the debate they were ministers of peace and Mr Dalton would abstain from voting; made it clear that he did not influence the vote of Labour representatives.

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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### Whitehall orders top-level study of soaring North Sea oil development costs

Mr Hill, a senior official in the Ministry of Energy, said the Government has ordered a study of the costs of developing Britain's offshore oil reserves. The study, which is being undertaken by a team of experts from the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Defence, is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The study will look at the costs of developing the North Sea oil fields, which are estimated to be worth £100 billion. The study will also look at the costs of developing the other offshore oil fields in the North Sea. The study will be the first of its kind in the world. It will provide a comprehensive overview of the costs of developing offshore oil fields. The study will also provide a detailed analysis of the costs of developing the North Sea oil fields. The study will be the first of its kind in the world. It will provide a comprehensive overview of the costs of developing offshore oil fields. The study will also provide a detailed analysis of the costs of developing the North Sea oil fields.

### Steelmakers want levy on 'dumped' bar imports

Representatives of the British Steel Corporation and the British Iron and Steel Federation are asking the Government to impose a levy on imports of steel bars from countries where the steel is sold at a price below its normal value. The levy is intended to protect the domestic steel industry from unfair competition. The levy will be imposed on imports of steel bars from countries where the steel is sold at a price below its normal value. The levy is intended to protect the domestic steel industry from unfair competition. The levy will be imposed on imports of steel bars from countries where the steel is sold at a price below its normal value.

### Scott Lithgow facing legal battle over Australian submarine delays

By Our Industrial Correspondent  
A legal battle is looming over the circumstances surrounding the delayed delivery of two submarines worth about £30m being built for the Australian Navy by Scott Lithgow on the Clyde. The delay has caused the Australian Navy to face a legal battle with Scott Lithgow. The delay has caused the Australian Navy to face a legal battle with Scott Lithgow. The delay has caused the Australian Navy to face a legal battle with Scott Lithgow.

### Redundancy notices for 150 lead to sit-in

By David Young  
Production at the factory at Bridgwater, Somerset, of Sealed Motor Construction, one of the largest employers in the area, has been disrupted by a sit-in by 150 workers. The sit-in is a protest against the company's redundancy notices. The sit-in is a protest against the company's redundancy notices. The sit-in is a protest against the company's redundancy notices.

### Way clear for renewal of energy conference

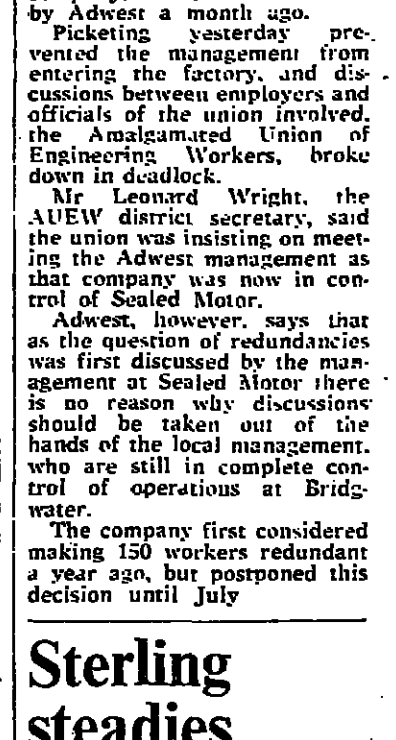
Alan McGregor, a senior official in the Ministry of Energy, said the Government has decided to renew the conference on energy. The conference will be held in London in the autumn. The conference will be held in London in the autumn. The conference will be held in London in the autumn.

### Further £7m backing for Tricentrol

By Our Financial Staff  
The Government has agreed to provide a further £7m to Tricentrol, a consortium of oil producers and consumers. The funding is intended to support the consortium's efforts to develop new oil fields. The funding is intended to support the consortium's efforts to develop new oil fields. The funding is intended to support the consortium's efforts to develop new oil fields.

### English Property loan issue disappoints

English Property Corporation's shareholders have given a cool reception to the issue of convertible loan stock by which the group has raised £15m. The shareholders are disappointed with the issue of convertible loan stock. The shareholders are disappointed with the issue of convertible loan stock. The shareholders are disappointed with the issue of convertible loan stock.



Mr David Llewellyn: not available for comment.

### Urocredits doubled in three months

Washington, Aug. 12.—Latest U.S. Bank figures show that total volume of short-term credits granted in the second quarter of this year has doubled in three months. The increase is due to a rise in the volume of short-term credits granted in the second quarter of this year. The increase is due to a rise in the volume of short-term credits granted in the second quarter of this year.

### Strike by 129 stops Halewood day shift

By R. W. Shakespeare  
All car assembly operations at the Ford plant at Halewood, Liverpool, were stopped by a strike of 129 workers. The strike is a protest against the company's management. The strike is a protest against the company's management. The strike is a protest against the company's management.

### Ilford shows £4.27m pre-tax loss

By Our Financial Staff  
Ilford, the film materials group which is wholly owned by the Swiss CIBA-Geigy concern, made a loss of £4.27m before tax in 1974 after being £2.13m in profit the year before. The loss is due to a rise in the cost of raw materials. The loss is due to a rise in the cost of raw materials. The loss is due to a rise in the cost of raw materials.

### Iran turning to capital market as borrower

By Christopher Wilkins  
Iran has turned to the international capital markets for its first major loan since the huge rise in oil prices in 1973 and 1974. The loan is intended to finance the country's oil industry. The loan is intended to finance the country's oil industry. The loan is intended to finance the country's oil industry.

### Recover cleared

Relays Bank has been given a licence by the Bank of England and for its takeover of Merile Credit. The takeover is a result of the bank's financial difficulties. The takeover is a result of the bank's financial difficulties. The takeover is a result of the bank's financial difficulties.

### Pan Am told to pay agreed agents' fees

It was announced yesterday by the Department of Trade that it had written to Pan American World Airways requiring it to come into line with the new rates of commission payable to travel agents. The announcement is a result of the department's investigation into the airline's practices. The announcement is a result of the department's investigation into the airline's practices. The announcement is a result of the department's investigation into the airline's practices.

### MPs criticize Ryder report

Continued from page 1  
Leyland as a means of government pressure. To carry out such a threat could well ensure the squandering of the sums already spent. The report is a criticism of the government's policy on the steel industry. The report is a criticism of the government's policy on the steel industry. The report is a criticism of the government's policy on the steel industry.

### Hutchinson seeks independent advice on offer

Hutchinson International has decided to call in an independent merchant bank to advise it on the offer by Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to inject HK\$150m (about £14m) of new capital into the company. The offer is a result of the company's financial difficulties. The offer is a result of the company's financial difficulties. The offer is a result of the company's financial difficulties.

### Aluminium standstill

World stocks of aluminium stood virtually static during the first half of 1975, though rising at a level higher than a year ago. The standstill is due to a rise in the volume of aluminium produced in the first half of 1975. The standstill is due to a rise in the volume of aluminium produced in the first half of 1975. The standstill is due to a rise in the volume of aluminium produced in the first half of 1975.

### How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Barclays Bank 12p to 250p	Anglo Am Corp 3p to 45p
Beecham 5p to 100p	Balfour Beatty 1p to 11p
BP 10p to 510p	Cable News 3p to 30p
EMI 5p to 150p	Cellulose Acetate 3p to 34p
Fisons 5p to 340p	Lockwoods 5p to 50p
Imp Chem Ind 5p to 250p	Morris & Blakey 2p to 28p

### THE POUND

Rank	Bank	Rank	Bank
1	Australia \$	1	Australia \$
2	Austria Sch	2	Austria Sch
3	Belgium Fr	3	Belgium Fr
4	Canada \$	4	Canada \$
5	Denmark Kr	5	Denmark Kr
6	France Fr	6	France Fr
7	Germany DM	7	Germany DM
8	Greece Dr	8	Greece Dr
9	Hong Kong \$	9	Hong Kong \$
10	Italy L	10	Italy L
11	Japan Yen	11	Japan Yen
12	Netherlands Gld	12	Netherlands Gld
13	Norway Kr	13	Norway Kr
14	Portugal Esc	14	Portugal Esc
15	S Africa Rand	15	S Africa Rand
16	Spain Ptas	16	Spain Ptas
17	Sweden Kr	17	Sweden Kr
18	Switzerland Fr	18	Switzerland Fr
19	US \$	19	US \$
20	USSR Rbl	20	USSR Rbl

### THE SUNGAI BESI MINES LTD.

Extracts from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. J. G. Richardson, for the year ended 31st March, 1975.  
The year has proved to be the most profitable in the company's history. The greater part of the profit was made from the No. 2 Opencast, but satisfactory results were also achieved after overcoming the difficult conditions encountered at depth. The yield from the No. 3/S Opencast was below expectations.  
Despite the fall in production from 2,579 tonnes in 1973/74 to 2,277 tonnes in the current year, profit on mining operations rose from £99,000 to £124,000. The average price received per picul of concentrate was \$594 compared with \$478 in 1973/74. Interest received amounted to £193,000 giving a profit before tax of £1,417,000 compared with £1,070,000 last year. After taking depreciation and extraordinary items into account the net profit totalled £708,000 compared with £535,000.  
Dividends for the year amounted to 5.995p per share compared with 5.5p in 1973/74.  
The average Penang tin metal price during 1974 was \$1,137 per picul but it eased towards the end of the year and has continued its downward trend in 1975.  
Your directors have carefully studied the new economic plan introduced by the Malaysian Government in 1974 which calls for local participation in industry to increase to 70 per cent by 1980, leaving 30 per cent for foreign investors. We entirely support the requirements of the Government and have submitted certain suggestions to the Malaysian Foreign Investment Committee concerning the transfer of control of the company's Malaysian operations to that country in a way which would both safeguard the interests of current shareholders and satisfy the aspirations of other parties concerned.  
Having commented on the record profits of the past year, I regret that I have also to confirm the reference made in the circular to shareholders dated 27 May 1975 that profitable operations for the next two years cannot be expected. In this case no dividends will be payable. The most comprehensive assessment of the geological environment and analysis of the drilling results was made of the No. 3/S Opencast before operations were begun, but the excavation work and further drilling now made possible by such work, show that the reserves in this opencast are substantially less than anticipated. As a result operations have now been carefully re-planned with a view to optimising overall profitability during the remaining life of the mine, which is currently estimated to be five or six years. The plan includes bringing forward the development of other sections of the mine which will result in an outflow of cash from reserves over the next two years.  
Other factors affecting profitability as a whole include rising costs, uncertainties concerning export restrictions and the tin price, together with the export surcharge and buffer stock payments which further reduce revenue. For instance in June, power costs, which account for some 30 per cent of all operating expenditure, were increased by no less than 66 per cent.  
Copies of the report and accounts and the Chairman's statement can be obtained from the Registrars, The Sungai Besi Mines Ltd., P.O. Box 102, Charter House, Park St., Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ.

**On other pages**  
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Preliminary Announcement: Cavoods Holdings 18  
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MARKET REPORTS

**Discount market**  
Money was roughly in reasonable quantity throughout yesterday's session in the discount market and the Bank of England "mopped up" on a small scale by selling Treasury bills directly to the houses. "Calling" caused no problems, the clearing banks appeared to have pretty flat positions and funds kept flowing steadily. Final balances were taken over a band as broad as 4 per cent to 8 per cent.

**DELTEEN HOLDINGS**  
Profit for 1974, £21,000 (loss £11,000). No dividend.

**Bank Base Rates**

Bank	Rate
Barclays Bank	10%
C. Hoare & Co.	10%
Lloyds Bank	10%
Midland Bank	10%
Nat Westminster	10%
Shenley Trust	11%
20th Century Bank	11%
Williams & Glyn's	10%

+ 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 7.5% up to £25,000, 7.5% over £25,000, 7.5%.

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1974/75	Company	Price	Dividend	Yield	P/E
55	35 Armitage & Rhodes	39	3.0	7.7	4.4
126	90 Henry Sykes	121	2.4	4.9	4.1
61	29 Twinlock Ord	31	1.0	3.2	8.6
65	45 Twinlock 12's, ULS	64	12.0	18.8	—
56	48 Unilock Holdings	56	4.5	8.0	10.8

**Foreign Exchange**  
Foreign exchanges were quite active yesterday. A good two-way business developed in the morning and was sustained throughout the day. Sterling opened beneath overnight levels and the dollar, but soon recovered. The opening quotation of \$2.0855 soon gave way to quotes above the \$2.00 level.

Demand for the pound, much of it from commercial sources, continued in the morning and sterling rose against both the dollar and the Continental currencies. By mid-afternoon the rate was \$2.0755. But a few selling orders late in the session pushed the rate down to \$2.0725 at the close, unchanged on the day.

Dealers said that talk of better United Kingdom trade figures helped the pound.

The "effective depreciation" rate showed little movement. It stood at 27.7 per cent at the close, 0.1 per cent down on the day.

Gold closed at \$164.10 an oz, up \$1.35 on the day.

**Spot Position of Sterling**

Market	Rate
New York	1.0000
London	1.0000
Paris	1.0000
Frankfurt	1.0000
Brussels	1.0000
Amsterdam	1.0000
Stockholm	1.0000
Copenhagen	1.0000
Oslo	1.0000
Stockholm	1.0000
Copenhagen	1.0000
Oslo	1.0000

**Forward Levels**

Month	Rate
1 month	1.0000
3 months	1.0000
6 months	1.0000
9 months	1.0000
12 months	1.0000

**Gold**  
Gold closed at \$164.10 an oz, up \$1.35 on the day.

**David Smith record**  
Once again printer and cartoon prod David Smith (Holdings) has notched record pre-tax profits. They rose from £746,000 to £778,000 in the year to April 30. The signs are that the current half year will match the corresponding £349,000 before tax. The total payment rises from an adjusted 2.85p to 3.08p.

**Recent Issues**

Company	Amount
British Overseas Airways	£100m
British Telecom	£100m
British Airways	£100m
British Airways	£100m

**Commodities**  
COPPER—Wires were closed quiet. Cathodes were firm, but quiet. A few sales of 100,000 lbs. of cathodes were made at 25.50-26.00. A few sales of 100,000 lbs. of cathodes were made at 25.50-26.00. A few sales of 100,000 lbs. of cathodes were made at 25.50-26.00.

**Wall Street**  
New York, Aug 12—Stocks gained but relatively light turnover indicated a lack of broad interest. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 4.78 points to 628.54. Advancing issues outnumbered declining issues 308 to 200. Volume totalled 14,510,000 shares compared with 12,350,000 shares on Monday, an unusually low level for the market. The market was ready for an upsurge following severe recent losses.

**NY silver firmer**  
New York, Aug 12—Futures closed firm with gains as much as 10¢. Silver futures were up 10¢ to 10.10. Gold futures were up 10¢ to 10.10. Silver futures were up 10¢ to 10.10. Gold futures were up 10¢ to 10.10.

**Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds**

1974/75	High Bid	Low Offer	1974/75	High Bid	Low Offer
126	90 Henry Sykes	121	2.4	4.9	4.1
61	29 Twinlock Ord	31	1.0	3.2	8.6
65	45 Twinlock 12's, ULS	64	12.0	18.8	—
56	48 Unilock Holdings	56	4.5	8.0	10.8

**Cawoods Holdings Limited**

**Preliminary Announcement**

**RECORD PROFITS**

Group Results for the year ended 31st March

	1975	1974
Profit before tax	2,000	2,000
Taxation	4,120	3,408
Profit after tax	2,220	1,817
Extraordinary items	1,890	1,589
Retained profit	1,243	1,070
Earnings per Ordinary Share	17.09p	14.39p
Ordinary dividends (gross equivalent)—per share in pence	8.64p	7.85p
Dividend—times covered	2.99	2.70

Dividends. A final dividend of 4.137p is proposed, making a total of 5.821p for the year ended 31st March, 1975, being the maximum permitted under the Companies Act 1947 (Dividends) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1975.

Dividend Contributions to Group Profit

	1975	1974
Fuel distribution	2,192	1,609
Asphalt, stone quarries and concrete	541	678
Products	847	956
Sand and gravel, ready mixed concrete and builders' supplies	224	28.8
Refractories	14	4.1
Containerisation	25	1.0
Income from investments	3,618	3,318
Add interest receivable	277	72
	4,120	3,408

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Edward Blinks

It is indeed gratifying to report record group profits of £4.12 million for the year ended 31st March 1975, an increase of 21% over the previous year and a record turnover of £131.4 million.

The cash balance at 31st March 1975 was £1,683,607 and the net current assets increased by £1,206,430 to £6,486,987.

Stocks and Work in Progress at 31st March 1975 increased to £3,655,223 and reflect higher costs and prices as well as stocks of oil and solid fuel strategic stocks purchased. The merger with London and Scottish Marine Oil Company Limited has removed the direct commitment of our Company for our share of the development costs of the oil field without reducing the value of our long term prospects in North Sea. Oil so far are 10% lower and under where there is a general improvement in the volume of trade in the country it will be difficult to achieve the record profit figures of last year.

We have a strong liquid position, we intend to continue our planned expansion, and we have the management team to absorb increased responsibility.

The Report and Accounts will be circulated to shareholders on 27th August and the Annual General Meeting will be held on 18th September.

**Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds**

1974/75	High Bid	Low Offer	1974/75	High Bid	Low Offer
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56	48 Unilock Holdings	56	4.5	8.0	10.8





## Stock Exchange prices

### Equities firmer

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Aug 11. Dealings End Aug 21. § Contango Day, Aug 22. Settlement Day, Sept 2.  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]





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of Adventure, 629 5747.

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Apply to: Salford Phillips,  
Special Appointments Division  
of Adventure, 629 5747.

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Antony Gibbs Ltd., the highly successful Financial Planning Consultants, require an experienced Secretary/P.A. to work for the Deputy Chairman of a wide variety of legal matters. Ideally someone aged 25+ with some experience of legal secretarial duties and a wide range of legal matters. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the firm's legal department and will be required to handle all correspondence and take care of the firm's diary. Salary £2,700+ p.a., but negotiable. L.V.s, 18M golfball, and twenty days' holiday.

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PLEASE TELEPHONE OR WRITE WITH BRIEF DETAILS TO:  
F. COUSEN, THE WALLPAPER MANUFACTURERS LTD.,  
40 BERNERS STREET,  
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12 YORK GATE, READING RG1 1AA.  
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Secretary/Personal Assistant, to be based at the Institute of Psychiatry, required from October 1st for newly-appointed Professor of Psychological Medicine. The Institute is part of the Medical School and the Institute of Psychiatry (University of London) is a leading centre for research and teaching in the field of Psychiatry.

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Applications (to be returned by 28th August) from the Secretary, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8AF. 01-705 5471 ext. 228 quoting reference HC/7.

## CHELSEA COLLEGE

University of London

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## UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

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1. 01-600 6859,  
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